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Gun Digest

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THE MAGAZINE

JULY 2020
VOLUME 37 • ISSUE 09

Perpetual Projectiles
SOME BULLET DESIGNS DON'T
NEED TO EVOLVE

Funky Firearms
A HISTORICAL LOOK AT
STRANGE DESIGNS

PLUS

REVIEW: XS SIGHTS'
NEW RAM SYSTEM

REVIEW: BROWNELL'S
MAGAZINE FEED LIP GAUGE

PRECISION PRACTICE:
HONING THE
LEGACY SKILLS

RELOADING:
UNDERSTANDING
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THE RETRO
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ROUND:
.32 S&W

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BY YAMIL SUED



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If I've said it once, I've said it at least a hundred times: When it comes to a firearm's true value, the scuffs in the bluing and the dings in the stock mean more than the stamp on the barrel or the receiver ever will.

Read that statement again if you must, but it's a given for a lot of firearms owners. If you're a collector, I suppose the opposite is true: The right stamp with a lack of blemishes will fetch more at resale. But does a monetary figure truly represent a gun's overall worth? What about the emotional value to which no price tag can be affixed?

Nearly a decade ago, my father-in-law began showing interest in hunting turkeys. He grew up on a very small family farm, but he'd traded that in for a life in the suburbs ... and with that shift came a natural detachment from firearms. He had no aversion to them; they simply were no longer a part of his life.

I'd just refinished the stock on the 870 from my youth. I'd grown tired of the monotone "red" wood common on those guns (you know exactly what I'm talking about) and had painted it completely black ... and then sanded it strategically so the red showed through in certain places. I was proud of it, and the gun looked really sharp.

Somewhere during the course of that turkey hunt, my father-in-law ran the 870 against something that put a sizable gouge

in the left side of the forend. I don't know if it was a barbed wire fence or the truck's tailgate that got the better of that new paint work, but the damage was obvious. I stewed over that gouge for a long time.

These days, however, my perspective has changed. My father-in-law hasn't picked up a shotgun since that hunt, and when I see that gouge ... well, I think of his smile behind that huge Eastern gobbler. Every. Single. Time.

It recently occurred to me that I probably would never have picked that 870 for that hunt if it weren't for my semi-random decision to paint it. I had other shotguns that were better-suited for the task. I didn't realize it then but, in my eyes, that paint job had given the 870 a "refreshed" feeling. The old had become new.

It's that same mindset that led to the first-ever retro issue of *Gun Digest*. Admittedly, I eased into the subject with this issue, but it's become apparent to me that nearly every gun owner has at least a *little* bit of retro in them.

There'll be more retro content to come, and I always accept suggestions at info@gundigest.com. But, for now, flip through these pages and enjoy. Here's to hoping that this issue stirs some pleasant memories and brings a smile to *your* face. **GDTM**

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.32

The Retro
Revolver
Round.

SMITH & WESSON

HISTORICAL NOTES

Designed for the Smith & Wesson Model 1½ hinged-frame, single-action revolver introduced in 1878, the .32 Smith & Wesson is an old and very popular cartridge that's widely used in the United States and Europe for low-priced, pocket-type revolvers. Originally a black-powder cartridge, it's been loaded with smokeless powder exclusively since 1940. In the United States, Colt, Harrington & Richardson, Hopkins & Allen, Iver Johnson, Smith & Wesson and others have made revolvers for this cartridge. In England, Webley & Scott made revolvers for it. Elsewhere in Europe, Bayard and Pickert revolvers chambered it. The original loading used nine grains of black powder.



GENERAL COMMENTS

The .32 Smith & Wesson formerly ranked with the .32 Automatic in general popularity—and for the same reasons. It's low powered and adaptable to small, light, inexpensive, pocket-type handguns. Ballistically, it's not

quite as good as the .32 Automatic. It's very similar to the .32 Short Colt, but the two aren't interchangeable because of a difference in bullet and case diameter. Like the .32 Automatic, the .32 S&W is about the minimum cartridge for self-defense. It's considered inadequate for police work. It's used occasionally for hunting small game at very short ranges, but it's too underpowered for consideration as a sporting cartridge. This ammunition is still available. **GDTM**

.32 SMITH & WESSON LOADING DATA AND FACTORY BALLISTICS

BULLET	POWDER	GRAINS	VELOCITY	ENERGY	SOURCE
85 LEAD	BULLSEYE	1.1	705	93	N/A
85 LEAD	BLACK POWDER (FG)	9.0	680	90	FACTORY LOAD
98 LEAD	SMOKELESS	-	705	115	FACTORY LOAD

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Best CCW Handguns for Women

I just finished reading “The Best Concealed Carry Handguns for Women” article online. Good article! It’s important to remember that tiny guns kick hard, so people don’t practice with them and gain confidence—male or female. Everyone should carry what they’re comfortable and confident with, regardless of its size.
Mikial, online comment

Little guns are built for concealability, not shootability. Period. A small firearm is more comfortable to carry and easier to hide, but that comes at the cost of a belittled sight radius with mitigated grip and frame structure upon which to get a solid purchase. Carrying comfortably is important, but carrying confidently is paramount.
Gun Digest editors

Testing Bullets in Feral Beef?

I just read your online article about Buffalo Bore ammunition (“Buffalo Bore Ammunition: Strictly Big Bore, Strictly Business”). The author spoke of going hunting for wild bovine. Really? He went hunting for wild cows? I think he chose the wrong word, because I know of no hunts for wild cows (which is the definition of “bovine”). I am assuming he meant wild hogs.
Ron Myers, via e-mail

Ron, you read the words in that article correctly: The author hunted for wild bovine (not swine). There are small herds of wild cattle sprinkled across the United States, most notably in Hawaii (mixing beaches with bovine hunting sounds like the perfect couple’s vacation, by the way). There’s even a species of wild ox in the far reaches of Australia that’s recognized by Safari Club International. At any rate, it’s



the ideal species for testing terminal performance of big-bore bullets—wary game, excellent table fare ... and a hell of a lot cheaper than Cape buffalo!
Gun Digest editors

Finicky Firearms

Why does one gun shoot differently with various bullets—including, but not limited to, one manufacturer? What could possibly make such a difference? I’m not talking about different weights of bullets—that’s understandable. But all things being equal, why is there so much variation in performance?
Danny Comsa, via e-mail

If I’m understanding you correctly, you’re asking why two guns, both of the exact same make, model and cartridge, can perform so differently with the same ammo? I’ve asked this same question of countless experienced gun writers, and the most common answer is, “It is what it is.” Well, I won’t accept that, and I have testing in progress aimed at answering this question. Stay tuned for a thorough report in an upcoming issue.
Luke Hartle, editor



The Curious Case of the .32s

In response to Richard Mann's "Defensive Handgunning" column in the May 2020 issue: I also replaced my six-shot .32 H&R magnum, this time with a .327 Federal Mag. seven-shot (Ruger GP 100). One can even find a .327 Fed. Mag. with eight rounds. My .32 H&R (Taurus Model 761) with a long barrel was very accurate. We'll see how this .327 compares. I now also have a .327 Federal Mag. 10-round, tube-fed Henry.

Lloyd Friedman, via e-mail

It sounds as if you have a .32-caliber "addiction," Lloyd ... and for that you have my admiration. It was Richard Mann's persuasive voice that now has me hiping a Ruger LCR in .327 Federal Mag. as my EDC gun as well. The versatility is attractive, but the power-to-recoil ratio is what really hooked me.

Luke Hartle, editor



Long-Range Shooting: Old School vs. New School

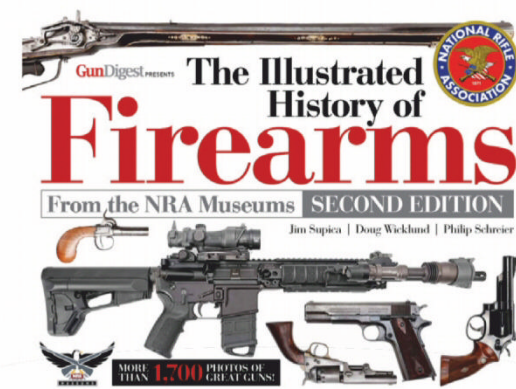
For long-range hunting here, in Nevada, I bought a 6.5 PRC Browning X-Bolt Pro mountain rifle. I topped it with a Bushnell Elite LRTS 4.5–18x44mm scope with a G3 illuminated "Christmas tree" reticle. It sits in Talley rings with a built-in level bubble in matching burnt-bronze Cerakote. Because I'm already using a large H59 Christmas tree reticle for competition, I'm used to using the reticle hash marks to hold instead of dialing. It's faster and, for hunting, faster is nice. Plus, I've discovered that at 4.5X, that small reticle, when illuminated, is very easy to see. So, I'd recommend illumination for

first focal plane reticles if they're as well done as my Bushnell LRTS.

Eric B.; online comment

For nearly all applications and disciplines, dialing for elevation and holding for wind comprise standard operating procedure—so much so that there's a large crop of new riflescopes that have an exposed elevation turret for dialing but have a standard windage turret. Pick your own "poison," but with nearly everything related to guns and optics, I've come to appreciate that less is more.

Luke Hartle, editor



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BUILDING 'HONEST' BULLETS

Hornady truly is solely dedicated to building accurate, deadly, dependable bullets.

The economics of the firearms business can be summed up with this analogy: *Do you want to sell dogs or dog food?*

For Hornady, the answer was simple: ammunition. After all, all firearms need ammunition ... and they always will.

The Hornady ammunition story began because Joyce Hornady saw a need in the firearms industry emerging after World War II. He thought a lot of shooters, like him, would need a good bullet to reload. He knew he was right long before the banks did, and he forged ahead with his dream.

THE DREAM BEGINS

From the beginning, Joyce Hornady made it clear to the world that his business would be brave, daring and practical. Fueled by his core values of building "accurate, deadly, dependable" bullets, Hornady Manufacturing Company continued to grow.

Hornady's climb to success wasn't an easy one, however. In 1981, with the Hornady brand well-established and growing, its founder and leader, Joyce Hornady, along with Hornady engineer Edward Heers and Hornady customer service manager Jim Garber, was killed in a tragic plane crash while on the way to SHOT Show, which was held in New Orleans that year.

Few businesses, no matter how well-run, can survive the loss of their visionary leaders. But, this wasn't just any ordinary

business; it was the Hornady family business. And thanks to the sound parenting and leadership of Joyce Hornady, his dream didn't die with him. Rather, it grew stronger, brighter and more innovative than ever.

AFTER THE TRAGEDY

According to Hornady's historic records, here's what happened next:

"After the immediate shock and grief abated somewhat, a giant question remained. What was to happen to the company? There were those who doubted it could survive the tremendous loss of its first and only leader. That was not the belief of Marval Hornady (Joyce Hornady's youngest son, Steve's wife). The family needed to regroup, and so it did. Steve Hornady became president and Marval the chairman of the board. Daughter Margaret Hornady David and her husband, Don, left careers at Polaroid to become vice president and chief engineer, respectively. A new era had begun."

Today, Steve Hornady is the leader of his father's dream. Together with his family, Steve has grown Hornady into the "largest independently owned maker of bullets, ammunition and tools in the world."

BEHIND THE HORNADY BRAND

A success story such as Hornady's shouldn't be ignored, so *Gun Digest* sat down to talk with Steve to find out what Hornady is like behind its brand.



Joyce Hornady started his business in 1949 in Nebraska. Decades later, Grand Island, Nebraska, is a Hornady town.

Joyce Hornady's love for bullets was rooted in his lifelong love of hunting and shooting.

"My father was an avid pistol and varmint shooter pre-World War II. Obviously, with the war, it became difficult to enjoy his recreation," Steve explained. "He worked with Vernon Speer—who had a machine shop in Lincoln, Nebraska—to develop a way to make varmint bullets out of spent .22 rimfire cases."

From this foundation, Joyce combined his ballistically inclined engineering mind with a strong entrepreneurial spirit at the end of World War II. He realized that after the war, thousands of American soldiers would be returning

to hunting and shooting.

“Post-World War II, he and Vernon continued making more bullets for handloaders and selling them by mail order,” Steve continued. “Dad and Vernon eventually went their own ways. Dad bought surplus bullet-making machinery and started making his own bullets, starting with a .30-caliber, 150-grain Spire Point.”

As Hornady grew, Joyce’s goals remained simple, genuine—and tangible to shooters.

“I don’t know that Dad had any specific goals, other than to try to make really good bullets and keep serving the market,” Steve pointed out. “Naturally, that led to growth, and I think he simply enjoyed the process of trying to do more.

“We started making ammo with surplus fired .308 and ’06 brass, because Dad felt people really wanted to shoot his bullets but didn’t want to handload.

“From the very beginning, our premise was that our bullets were what made our ammo. We didn’t have ammo production numbers to meet; we had bullet

accuracy specs to meet—and that made all the difference.”

‘HONEST’ BULLETS

Hornady built its brand purposely and has always remained centered on Joyce’s fundamental desire to provide the world with a good, honest bullet.

According to Steve, “We’ve built our brand by simply doing the right thing for our customers. We always pursued what we thought would be a good idea and not necessarily what would bring the most

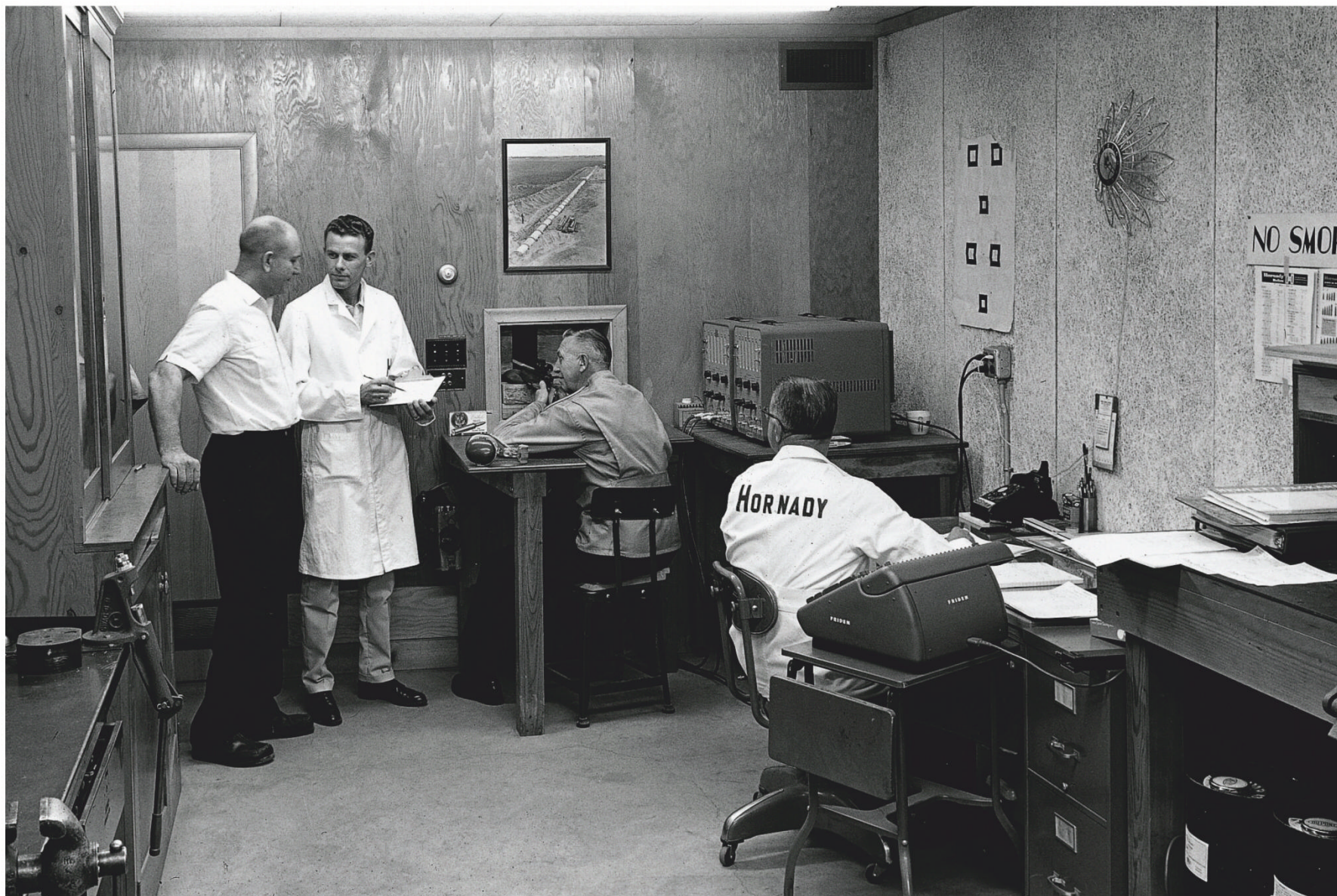
revenue. We didn’t go after high volume by lowering our standards, and we didn’t go after high revenue by setting high prices. We *did* make bullets Dad thought customers would want or need—even if it didn’t make economic sense (for instance, the .458-caliber, 500-grain FMJ).”

I once met Steve at a SHOT show, and it didn’t take me long to see he was a feisty and honest—but fair-minded—businessman. He struck me as the kind of guy who’d have my back in a bar fight. That kind of loyalty is exactly what I’ve seen

Where Hornady began. The company started off as a dream and grew into a reality.



Before his unfortunate death in 1981, Joyce Hornady spent a lot of time in the laboratory testing bullet designs.





course, Larry Steadman, Jim Lagiss, Jim Devere, Larry French, Charlie Dunkin, Arlen Chaney, Bob Delfay, Jerry Bersett, Bob Scott, Ted Rowe, Bob Behn, Tom Gura, Jack Durrett, Larry Barnett—and many more—but you get a pretty good idea.”

When asked about his hunting and bullet design success, Steve pushed the spotlight aside and instead shined it on his father and the rest of the Hornady family.

“I appreciate the compliment, but I don’t think I’m particularly keen or possess any specific expertise,” Steve said. “I think I’ve probably adopted my parents’ sense of simple fairness in how we treat our staff, our customers and the shooters. We’re still trying to make the best products we can and not use marketing “BS” to convince the shooter. Rather, we convince the shooter by delivering the product. It’s being validated every day by winning matches and providing more and more performance to consumers, law enforcement and military.”

LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

The next set of questions I asked captured Steve’s personality and Hornady’s “boxer” mentality.

Gun Digest: With regard to the ammunition industry, where have you seen manufacturing and sales succeed and fail, versus that of your own product?

Steve Hornady: I think I’ve seen mistakes by others; some are still [making mistakes]. I’m not going to say which ones ... because I want them to continue.”

GD: Have there been milestone choices other manufacturers have made that you disagreed with?

SH: Ah, yup! And I’m glad they did and are still doing so.

GD: If so, what were they, and why did you go a different direction?

SH: Nunya! (I can only assume that this was Steve’s shorthand for “None of your business!”)

GD: Like any firearms industry company, Hornady must endure and balance external influences and factors. Which ones have impacted Hornady the most? Politics? Labor costs? Manufacturing skill sets? Technology? COVID-19?



Steve Hornady has embraced his family’s rich tradition in hunting and shooting by traveling around the world after all kinds of wild game.

Steve Hornady with a Cape Buffalo he took in Africa. Hornady began in 1949 with Steve’s father, Joyce.

in the performance of Hornady bullets; that is, they’re there when you need them, and they offer simple, reliable performance.

A Hornady 154-grain Interlock (7mm-08) that I handloaded took my first black bear in Maine, and other Hornady bullets have cleanly taken countless whitetails, mule deer, coyotes and a Wyoming pronghorn. The bullets work because that’s the way Joyce Hornady first designed them. And Steve and his family have continued Hornady’s bullet-design genius based on several

lifetimes of well-established pedigrees of success hunts around the world.

MEET STEVE HORNADY

Aside from his family influence, what else has helped shape both Steve and Hornady?

According to Steve, “I’ve been in this biz now for almost 55 years. I started mowing lawns at the factory when I was 15, and I’ve been here ever since. As a result, there have been quite a few people I’ve learned from ... They’re not in any particular order: my father and mother, of

SH: Well, all, to some degree. Starting in the late 1980s, as our ammunition business was growing, it became evident that it was going to be self-limiting to rely on the very same companies that were our competitors for our cartridge brass. That got us started making our own brass. The technology and manufacturing skills were things we didn't possess and had to learn—sometimes, the hard way—what to do.

Today, we're pretty darned good; and, of course, that's allowed us to innovate with cartridge design—not trying to make the most bad-ass powder burner, but to deliver the best bad-ass performance. In this case, I use "accuracy on target" and "performance" interchangeably. It's not how fast you can push a bullet; it's getting that bullet to go where it's supposed to go, each and every time.

As for the industry, I certainly don't need to remind everyone of the forces out there that are trying to "get us." It's not paranoia when a candidate for president says he's coming for your guns or an activist billionaire commits a fortune to build a coalition to drive our industry into the ground. There are literally millions of people who don't understand the basic fundamental principle of self-defense, both

personally and as a bulwark against an adventurous government. They're sheep.

IN FRONT OF AND BEHIND THE HORNADY BRAND

Steve's vision for the future of Hornady is close to its present.

"I think I want the brand to be what the brand is perceived as now," he said. "We build the very best ammo—and at competitive prices. We supply premium products across the board, even in 'commodity ammo' categories (.223 FMJ and 9mm, for which we load our bullets and not some generic cheapie). Hornady's business continues to grow. The Hornady family, its employees and, ultimately, its brand have leadership in place to carry the company forward through the next few generations."

What does Steve have planned for tomorrow?

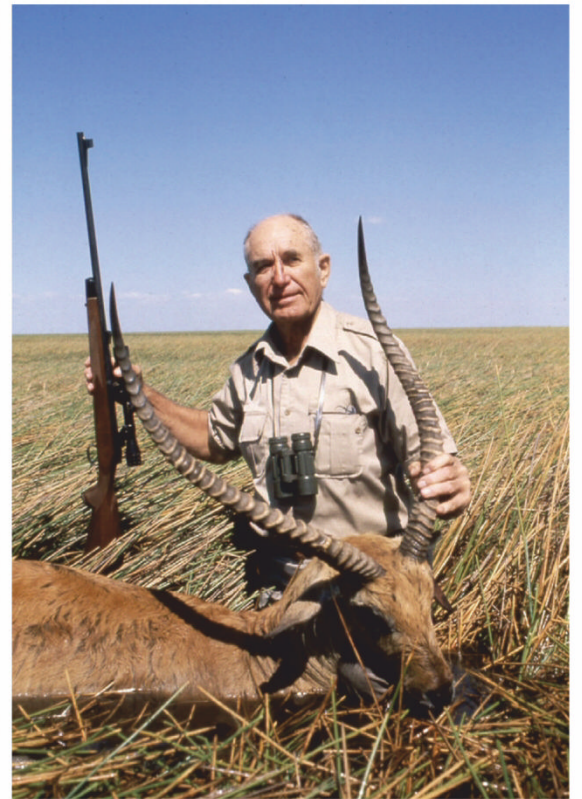
"I think we'll continue to improve both what we build and our ability to deliver it at a competitive price," he said.

So, what is Hornady behind the brand? It's the same as it is in front of it. The Hornady brand isn't a marketing scheme; it's a mirror that reflects almost 100 years of bullet-making ingenuity started by a man who was willing to bet on himself when

the banks didn't believe in his dream. And that's about as American as you can get, folks.

The bottom line is that Steve and the entire Hornady family want customers to know that when they choose Hornady ammunition, "they're getting the commitment of everyone here to deliver the very best we know how to do."

And, what Hornady best knows how to do is build "accurate, deadly, dependable" bullets. **GDTM**



Joyce Hornady hunted with the bullets he created.

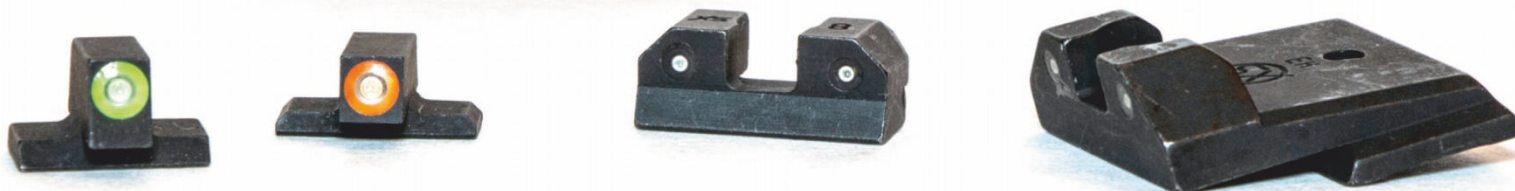
Steve (right) and son Jason Hornady with a bull moose they took using Hornady ammunition.

XS RAM SIGHTS

XS's first foray into 3-dot sights, its new RAM design is well-thought-out and easy to see in *any* light.



Currently, XS is offering its RAM sights for a variety of Glock, Sig Sauer, Springfield, FN and Smith & Wesson handguns.



For the past 20 years or so, almost every one of my defensive handguns has had its sights replaced with XS Sights. So, when XS introduced its RAM sights, I thought for a moment the company had named them after me—after all, my initials are “RAM.”

Unfortunately, that was not the case. As far as XS Sights are concerned, RAM stands for “Radio Active Material.” The RAM sights are the first 3-dot sights the company has offered.

I’ve never been a huge fan of 3-dot sights. The front sight is the one that deserves your focus; and, with many 3-dot sight systems, all three dots are the same size. This could—at least theoretically—lead to confusion.

To test these new sights, I installed them on my son’s Gen-4 Glock 19, which was already wearing a set of Trijicon HD XR night sights. But, before

making the switch, he and I both fired several practical drills so we’d have a baseline of performance for comparison with the new XS Sights.

NO ‘DOT CONFUSION’

After a good bit of range time, I don’t think “dot confusion” is a realistic concern with the RAM sights. This is partly because the front RAM sight has the common tritium vial but is surrounded by a large circle of photoluminescent material. It’s extremely visible; you’d have to be blind not to see it. It very effectively serves its purpose of attracting your eye to it as soon as the handgun enters your field of vision. It’s also partly because the two dots on the rear sight are very small. During all daylight and moderately low-light shooting, I never noticed the rear dots. The only time they got any attention was when it was nearly dark, and then, they were

more of a confirmation of the rear sight than an actual tool to help me put a sight picture together.

Another aspect of these sights we both really liked was that the rear notch is 15 percent wider than the front sight. This allows for enough light on both sides of the front sight to make sight alignment fast. Due to presbyopia, I (ideally) need to wear prescription shooting glasses for the best accuracy with a handgun. This notch and front sight size relationship allowed me to shoot well, even without the aid of corrective lenses.

COMPARISON TESTING

How did the XS RAM sights compare to the Trijicon HD XR sights?

The goal of the exercise was not to discover which sight was best; it was only to see if the new XS Sights could perform as well (I don’t know how many shooters and how many rounds



AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

In the March 2020 *Gun Digest* issue, there was a letter to the editor from Steve Ham of Georgia. Steve—a self-proclaimed “hillbilly”—was curious why my “Hillbilly Wisdom” comments had been excluded from recent issues.

I’ll address that, but I first want to comment on Editor Luke Hartle’s response—specifically, this: “... I still fail to understand the self-labeled subtitles that differentiate a ‘redneck’ from a ‘hillbilly.’”

First of all, “hillbilly” is not a self-labeled subtitle; it’s a geographically descriptive term identifying people born and raised within the Allegheny Mountain Range that extends from north-central Pennsylvania to southwestern Virginia. More broadly, hillbillies call the Blue Ridge and Appalachian Mountains home.

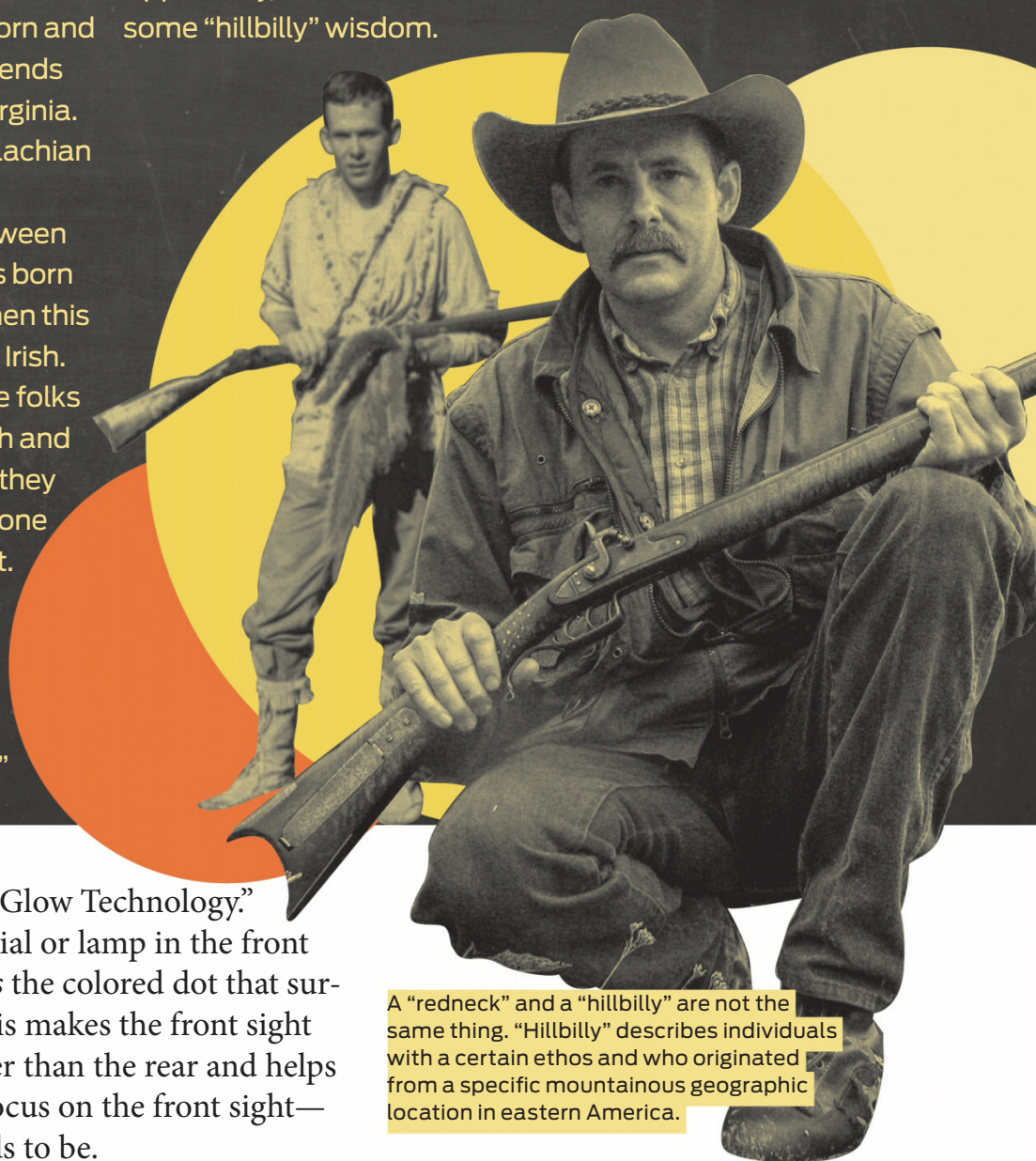
But, “hillbilly” is not a birthright. It differentiates between someone born in those areas and someone who was born there *and* exemplifies an ethos extending back to when this region was first settled in the 1700s by the Scots and Irish. Due to their religious beliefs and clannish ways, these folks were forced into the hills by the more-affluent English and French settlers of the lowland coastal areas. In fact, they were encouraged to go “settle” the hills, because no one else—other than a few Germans—had the grit to do it.

These hardy folk were very distrustful of government. Hillbillies are independent souls with a strong sense of family who revere the land, their heritage and exemplify the ruggedness of the country that birthed them. On the other hand, the term, “redneck,”

is often applied to country folk who are perceived to be crass and unsophisticated. A redneck is not necessarily a bad person but is generally considered uncouth, arrogant and even uncivil.

Rednecks and hillbillies are *not* the same thing.

With regard to my usual “Hillbilly Wisdom” segment, it’s been absent from previous columns due to space constraints. I’ll do my best to include it as often as possible in the future. Apparently, there are some folks out there who could use some “hillbilly” wisdom.



A “redneck” and a “hillbilly” are not the same thing. “Hillbilly” describes individuals with a certain ethos and who originated from a specific mountainous geographic location in eastern America.

would have to be fired in order to make a definitive claim that one sight is better than the other). Based on the drills we fired, both sights performed about the same. I shot infinitesimally better with the XS Sights, and my son’s performance was practically identical with either sight.

We both did agree we liked the smaller rear dots on the RAM sights. In addition, the RAM rear sight has a slight overhang that, combined with the anti-reflective lens vials on the two rear dots, reduces the glare on the face of the rear sight in brightly lit conditions. There’s also some science at work with the front sight: It’s what XS

calls “Ember Glow Technology.” The tritium vial or lamp in the front sights *charges* the colored dot that surrounds it. This makes the front sight much brighter than the rear and helps direct your focus on the front sight—where it needs to be.

RAM OPTIONS

The new RAM sights from XS are available with a green or orange front sight and retail for \$109.99. Currently, XS is offering its RAM sights for a variety of Glock, Sig Sauer, Springfield, FN and Smith & Wesson handguns. They come with a punch and LocTite for self-installation, but I’d

suggest you get a gunsmith to do this for you. Also, in addition to XS’s no-questions-asked warranty and world-class customer service, if a customer tries one the RAM night sights and is not completely satisfied, XS will swap them out for a different model or, if the sight is purchased directly from the company or participating partners, it’ll even offer a refund. **GDTM**

MIND

Brownells'
Magazine
Feed Lip
Gauge to the
rescue.

THE

GAP

The gauge shouldn't pass through the mag lips. Of course, being aluminum, the lips can flex and give a false reading. Be careful!



In the old days, we knew nothing about AR-15 magazines. They were mysteries. You kept the ones that worked and ditched/sold/traded the ones that didn't. No one knew why this particular mag worked in my rifle and not yours, and vice-versa.

Life is so much better now, because we have magazines that work in *all* rifles ... or do they?

One way to learn more is to measure things. However, measuring AR-15 magazines is difficult, because those who make them won't tell us what they

should and shouldn't be. Good luck prying that information out of them; some might be helpful, and some might not.

HERE'S THE SKINNY:

- Minimum gap between the feed lips: .445 inch
- Maximum allowed: .480 inch

Hmmm. That really isn't as helpful as we would like, is it? And what *really* matters is that they be parallel, even, unbent and equally level along their lengths.

BROWNELLS TO THE RESCUE

Brownells offers its Magazine Feed Lip Gauge for those who want to track their magazines.

The gauge has two measuring surfaces that are managed by means of machining the gauge so the measuring part is a tapered bar. Strip the magazine (or just shove the gauge in; I'm too lazy to take them apart) and see if the gauge passed through the lip gap.

If it passes all the way though, the lips are too far apart. The magazine fails inspection. (Of course, if you're heavy-handed, you can force the gauge through the mag lips, because, after all, they're just aluminum.) If the bottom of the taper-to-the-small-dimension part won't pass between the feed lips, the gap is too small, and the magazine fails. The test is simple enough.

Even so, here's the rub: I have some (not many) magazines that fail the gauge but still work in my rifles. Oh well, life isn't perfect.

TRACK YOUR TRAINING MAGS

But, what you *can* do is track your training magazines.

You should have two sets of magazines. (Plus over-supply in inventory). Both sets have been tested, found 100 percent reliable and marked with your name, number, logo or whatever.

You keep one set stashed for TEOT-WAWKI, or End of Days, or whatever it is you're prepared for. They're tested—but not used—and thus, not worn. They'll be good for as long as you need them.

The other set comprises your training or competition magazines. These get used—and used hard. So, you test them and find they work. You mark them, measure each one, and record what they gauge at. Alternatively, once they pass the gauge, you can record their actual lip-spacing measurement.

In the regular course of taking them apart to clean them (practice and competition can get a lot of gunk inside of magazines) you check the measurement, or you use the gauge to check the gap.

I know, I know. This sounds like a lot of work. But here's a secret: It's what

the top shooters do, and they do it with *all* their magazines—both rifle and pistol—when they take them apart to clean them. And, many shooters will even track the relaxed length of the magazine spring to see when it's time to replace those.

Regular inspection will also uncover damaged magazines. Your magazines don't always fall on the ground, hitting on their basepads first. Sometimes, they hit feed lips first. When that happens, they can get damaged. If you don't look, you won't know, and you'll find out the hard way ... most likely during a match. Cleaning gives you a chance to catch that damage and replace your training/competition magazine with one from your inventory (but *not* from your End of Days stock).

Yes, this can end up being a lot of effort on your part, but it's the kind of effort successful people make.

And, as to the eternal question, "How many magazines are enough?" I'll let you know when I get there. **GDTM**

The Brownells gauge is compact, sturdy, handy and lets you track your magazine wear.



Federal's Gold Medal Match Large Rifle Magnum primer is an excellent choice for igniting large powder charges.

A PRIMER PRIMER

Don't sweat the small stuff ... except when dealing with primers.

Ah, the little primer—that tiny, metal cup that's the spark plug for our center-fire cartridges and shotshells. It's often overlooked; yet, without it, we'd still be sending showers of sparks with flint and steel.

Unless you handload your ammunition or frequently use an inline muzzle-loading rifle, the primer might not matter all that much to you, but it can make or break the accuracy of your ammo. Primers can be finicky little buggers, changing the performance of your handloads—even though the powder type and charge weight are identical—because no two brands or types of primers produce the same results.

BOXER PRIMER

The primer is the first stage in the chain of events leading to the bullet or shot being sent down the barrel. Modern, non-corrosive primers are made of a metallic cup containing a small amount of priming compound that's held against an anvil. That primer is loaded into the pocket in the center of the case head. When it's crushed by the firing pin, a shower of sparks is driven through the flash hole (located centrally in the primer

pocket) to ignite the powder charge.

The most popular style of primer used here, in the United States, is the Boxer primer, which utilizes a centrally located flash hole and an anvil in the primer cup. On the other hand, Berdan primers use a pair of offset flash holes and have the anvil located in the primer pocket as a part of the case itself. You shouldn't try to use Berdan-primed cases for reloading, because you'll damage your resizing die in an attempt to knock out the old primer.

Our Boxer primers were developed by a British gentleman, Col. Edward Mounier Boxer, who received an English patent in October 1866 and a U.S. patent in June 1869. These have been the primers-of-choice for our centerfire ammunition in the United States since that date.

PRIMER CATEGORIES

Our primers are divided into four major groups by diameter.

Small Pistol and Rifle (0.175-inch diameter): These small rifle primers will have a harder cup than the small pistol variety, in addition to having a hotter spark. There are magnum variants of both small pistol and small rifle that

are used to ignite larger powder charges.

Shotgun/Inline Muzzleloader (0.209-inch diameter [hence the popular "209" designation]): With a flanged brass cup, this primer is used for all our shotshells and for modern inline muzzleloading rifles. This primer is usually used for both standard and magnum loads. However, CCI offers a 209-Magnum primer.

Large Pistol and Rifle (0.210-inch diameter): Large rifle primers are 0.008 inch taller than large pistol primers. The rifle variants have a thicker, harder cup than the pistol primers, and there are large rifle magnum and large pistol magnum for igniting heavy powder charges.

.50 BMG Primers (0.315-inch diameter): These are for the behemoth .50BMG cartridge—burning more than 200 grains of powder in some instances.

COMMON PRIMER DESIGNATIONS

Each company has a different designation for its primers, and you'll need to be aware of how they're named. Here are the most common:

- » **Small Pistol:** CCI 500, Federal 100, Winchester WSP, Remington 1½
- » **Small Pistol, Magnum:** CCI 550, Federal 200, Winchester WSPM,

- Remington 5½
- » **Small Rifle:** CCI 400, Federal 205, Winchester WSR, Remington 6½
 - » **Small Rifle, Magnum:** CCI 450, Federal 250M, Remington 7½
 - » **Large Pistol:** CCI 300, Federal 150, Winchester WLP, Remington 2½
 - » **Large Pistol, Magnum:** CCI 350, Federal 155, Winchester WLP
 - » **Large Rifle:** CCI 200, Federal 210, Winchester WLR, Remington 9½
 - » **Large Rifle, Magnum:** CCI 250, Federal 215, Winchester WLRM, Remington 9½ M

MATCH-GRADE PRIMERS

There are also match-grade primers that are designed for the most consistent performance.

Federal offers its Gold Medal Match in all designations of pistol and rifle primers, and it offers a primer specifically for the AR crowd. Federal adds a “GM” prefix and an “M” suffix, so the Federal Large Rifle Match primers would be designated as “GM210M.”

CCI makes a military-type primer for 5.56 NATO, 7.62x51 NATO and .50 BMG, labeled as No. 41, No. 34 and No. 35, respectively. There are also 209 primers designed specifically for inline muzzleloading rifles.

Winchester has recently announced its line of USA Ready match-grade primers in small and large pistol and small and large rifle.

RULES TO LOAD BY

Consistent use of the same brand and type of primer is a very important part of creating accurate ammunition.

Keep this rule of thumb in mind throughout your loading career: *When changing primers, always start your load development over, because the variations in primer heat can have a drastic effect on the pressures you generate.* When you assemble your hand-loaded ammunition, you should refer to one or more of the reloading manuals and pay special attention to the primer used. You might see a magnum primer used in a cartridge that normally calls for a standard primer (perhaps it gave

better results with a slower-burning powder). Or, you might see the load listed with a particular brand of primer. I highly suggest you either obtain some of that type/brand of primer or find some load data using the type of primer you have.

Primers should always be installed into the primer pocket to sit either flush or slightly recessed. This applies to both factory-loaded and handloaded ammunition. If the primer sits too far out of the primer pocket, the risk of a slam fire drastically increases.

I’m constantly checking primer depth on all my ammunition. When I was fortunate enough to tour the Norma ammunition factory, I saw the employees using a little gauge to check primer depth, and I firmly believe this is a big part of the accuracy of its products.

HOT TO COOL

Knowing how the varying primers perform can provide some insight to help you choose what might work best for you. In very general terms, and based solely on my experiences—as well as that of the group of my cronies who’ve spent what amounts to a small fortune experimenting with an impossible number of combinations—I’d rank the primers in this order, from hottest to coolest:

Rifle Primers

- » Federal Gold Medal Match
- » Federal
- » CCI
- » Remington/Winchester



The .45 Colt might use standard large pistol primers, large pistol magnum primers or the Winchester WLP—declared suitable for both purposes.

Pistol Primers

- » Remington/Winchester
- » CCI
- » Federal/Federal Gold Medal Match

Many reloading presses have a priming arm to allow the user to install primers from the press. However, I feel they generate too much pressure and give uneven seating depths.

I much prefer to install my primers by hand, using either a Lyman or RCBS hand priming tool to give a uniform depth. I’ve even known guys who weigh primers; they make the assumption that the metal cup and anvil will be of uniform weight and that any variation is caused by either more or less priming compound in the cup.

My own personal preference is Federal Gold Medal Match primers, because they’ve helped me develop some of my most accurate and consistent hand-loads—with velocity spreads in the single digits.

In the end, while I might keep a good number of different primers on hand for load development, once I settle on a load, I make sure to purchase a minimum of 1,000 primers from the same lot to keep things as uniform as possible. **GDTM**



The author prefers a hand priming tool, such as this Lyman unit, for the most uniform results.



The well-rounded marksman masters shooting skills before turning to tips and tricks.

LEGACY SKILLS

In terms of training, we talk about “legacy skills” all the time. To me, legacy skills are the tools that enhance the shooter’s overall proficiency while not being dependent on gear. In other words: You’re solving your precision rifle problem without having to dip into your wallet.

It boils down to training and mindset. Do you invest in a ballistic calculator for your latest smartphone, or will a data book work?

RETICLE RANGING

One example from a sniper’s standpoint is reticle ranging. Reticle ranging is a legacy skill because it’s:

- » Slow in a game where speed wins
- » Limited in its maximum effective range

- » Subjective in execution
- » Results will vary with conditions
- » It’s a perishable skill set

Today, the military uses tools to help when reticle ranging is necessary. Its members practice “rapid target engagements” with their system that translate directly to their reticle. It’s different from my days in the Marine Corps, but it accomplishes the same thing: it just cuts out a few steps.

Reticle ranging is subject to light, angle, target size and color. There’s a host of variables that can skew the results, so we have to practice. It’s a perishable skill that requires sustainment training. When you need it, you want it to be there, so practice is the only choice. The formulas are all over the Internet, but honestly, you use them to create a “cheat sheet.” They’re not

for in the field, because they’re too slow. The idea that you can break out a calculator under stress or time is a non-starter. We adapt and practice to speed up the process.

SLINGS

Slings are another area we consider a legacy skill. It’s one thing to sling up a 7-pound rifle with a 3-9x scope. It’s an entirely different process to shoot an 18-pound Accuracy International with a sling under time with any kind of success. The amount of training necessary would be self-defeating: Our precision rifles have to be supported. Can it be done? Absolutely. But it’s wildly inconsistent without training.

Ask yourself this: *Do I want to stand up in the middle of a field and set up a*

sling? For me? No. I look at things such as cover and concealment, so my first consideration is rifle support.

While re-reading an older article I wrote, I spoke passionately about carrying a tripod. Legacy skills mean I have a *tool* in my toolbox when all else fails; I have a *plan*, along with the ability to execute. My skills are up the task without outside influence. It's not a dollar issue; it's one of time and training.

Sling shooting is beneficial when practiced. But understand the time it takes to build the position and adjust the natural point of aim. I know for a fact that I can deploy a bag or tripod faster. The question becomes, *What happens when I don't have my backpack or tripod?*

We shot off of packs in the Marines, because we didn't have bipods. Slings were necessary for both general qualifying and sniping. A sling can do more than just hold the rifle on your shoulder—but, you have to train.

DATA BOOKS

Ballistic apps/solvers are all the rage. We see new owners buying apps before they even hit the range or own a rifle. Because these apps reside on our phone, many look at them as if they were games—as opposed to the military-grade tools they actually are.

We've lost an essential connection to our data by depending on apps. We remember more when we write things down instead of inputting it into the phone. Defaulting to a smartphone to manage all your ballistic calculations creates a "dope disconnect."

Back in the day, we all had to memorize

phone numbers; this was pretty easy, because we manually inputted them every time. Today, we tap the icon or pick a name out of a list, and the phone does the rest.

Our data books are a shooter's "bible." We used to have one for every rifle we owned. We were meticulous about monitoring everything—from round count to range details. In fact, I have a retired data book with more information from places such as Gunsite that are still valid today. None of them can be found in any of my apps. It's more than dope: The targets are plotted out and have yet to be moved.

Data books are crucial for analysis, damage control and barrel conditioning. It's beyond just serving as a dope book. Fill your data book with any number of true statements, and there's nothing you can't accomplish. I love the variety of pages we have (thanks to people such as Tony at Impact Data Books!). To this day, I still use a data book—despite owning every, single ballistic app on the market. In fact, I'd break out a data book before I'd open my phone on the firing line.

POSITIONAL SHOOTING

There's a long list of legacy skills out there; some of them are discipline-specific.

One area that's easy and combines

multiple legacy skills is positional shooting. Today, we try to support the rifle off props. Practicing positions with a sling accomplish two things: You learn to manage the fundamentals from alternate positions, and you can work slings and body positions to stabilize the shots.

Working positions is only limited by time. You don't need a barricade or a tank trap. You can do it in an empty field. Follow the crawl. Walk and then run the model, making sure your execution is perfect. Take the time to analyze and fine-tune each step of the process. It's not so much when you're sitting slung up; it's more about getting into and out of the position quickly and effectively.

For instance, in a NASCAR race, the problem isn't the straightaway—it's the turns (where do you enter each turn, and where do you get back on the gas?).

It's about being a well-rounded marksman. We have plenty of shortcuts in our lives. Look at your shooting as if it were a martial art and master the craft *before* turning to the tips and tricks. Those will come later.

I want to "own" everything in front of me out to 600 meters, 800 meters, 1,000 yards! Whatever the case, practice makes perfect. **GDTM**



Precision shooters need to manage a lot of information. Consider your data book your shooter's "bible."

Modern conveniences and old-school methodology can work hand-in-hand. The author uses a Kestrel on the firing line, but he's also manually recording the data.



Positional shooting is a skill that must be practiced and maintained.

01 Galco Ruger Wrangler Holster

Like a thundering stampede, the Ruger Wrangler has run roughshod through the gun world. Galco has gotten into the action of the slick and affordable .22 single-action Army revolver with a classy option to hang the heater. Distinctively Western in appearance, the tanned steer-hide rig is designed to ride high and keep your Wrangler ready for any varmints that get in your path. Boasting an open top, it draws easily but keeps your gun in place the rest of the time—thanks to a sturdy hammer thong retention feature. And, if you want to piece together a complete rig, Galco offers a specially made matching cartridge belt for the holster.

MSRP: \$79 (holster); \$109 (belt)

02 Shooters Choice Bullseye Box

Whether your guns are new or old, one thing that never goes out of style is keeping them in tip-top shape. Shooters Choice offers you the Bullseye Box, which contains all the needed tools to keep your guns clean as a whistle. A 300-piece, universal gun-cleaning kit, it's more than enough to tackle any routine maintenance on rifles, shotguns and pistols. Best of all, the Bullseye Box eliminates hunting for the right brush or jag, because it's packed in a tackle box-style case with ample cubbies and storage space. In addition to patches, bushes, rods, swabs, towels and other tools, the kit also comes with a full complement of cleaning chemicals, oils and grease. In short, it eliminates any excuse you might have for *not* keeping your guns pristine.

MSRP: \$175

03 Red Ryder Model 1938 80th Anniversary Edition

Can you even call it "retro"? It's never gone out of style. Kids of all ages still pine over the hallowed Red Ryder Model 1938—ready to take down Black Bart and his gang ... while avoiding shooting their own eyes out. Now, with nearly a century under its belt, Daisy has released an anniversary model of the hallowed BB gun that, if possible, makes it even more desirable. The 80th Anniversary special edition comes with some extras not found on ordinary Red Ryders, including commemorative engraving on the forearm and medallion in the buttstock. Otherwise, the trusty lever-action has everything else that's endeared it to American youths: wood stock and forearm, saddle ring, real leather thong and adjustable rear sight. Classic as ever!

MSRP: \$39.99

RETRO RELOAD



01 »

02 »



03 »

04 Bond Arms Grizzly

Long the staple of riverboat gamblers and ladies of the night, the derringer has found new life as a modern-day back-up gun. And, nobody does these petite pistols better than Texas's own Bond Arms. Joining the gunmaker's extensive catalog in 2020 is a potent .45 Colt/.410 bore that goes by the name "Grizzly." Part of Bond's Rough Series, this twin-barrel (3 inches) pistol is built of stainless steel and features a bead-blasted finish, rebounding hammer, retracting firing pins, spring-loaded, cammed locking lever and cross-bolt safety. Lively rosewood grips, engraved with a grizzly bear, top it all off. As on all Bond derringers, you can swap barrels on the gun. The Grizzly comes with a leather holster that's embossed with—you guessed it—another grizzly.

MSRP: \$377

05 Uberti Short Stroke KL CMS

A bit like mounting a V8 inside an Apaloosa, Uberti's competition-focused, single-action Army (SAA) adds modern muscle to a throwback gun. Co-designed by Cowboy Mounted Shooting World Champion Kenda Lenseigne, the Short Stroke KL CMS Pro is among the fastest shooters around today. This is thanks to a terse hammer throw that greatly cuts down cocking and cycling time on the 3½-inch-barreled .45 Colt revolver. Aiding in this is a wide, low and deeply checkered spur with plenty of real estate to cock it back, as well as a custom-grade mainspring and modified birdshead grip. It's available in stainless steel with a blued barrel and color case-hardened frame.

MSRP: Starting at \$739

06 Steinel Ammunition 6.5x52mm Carcano

Despite one particular Carcano rifle's notorious past in 1960s Dallas, the former Italian military service rifle is still a worthy, if not desirable, addition to a collection. It's an even a better one, now that Steinel Ammunition is turning out something to feed it. Known for tackling some of the harder-to-find military calibers, Steinel has tacked on an 6.5x52mm Carcano option. A 160-grain load delivers a muzzle velocity of 1,770 fps, which gets fairly impressive results out of the soft-point, round-nose bullet. By Steinel's telling, the .267-caliber bullet mushrooms to around .516 inch at shorter ranges and offers nearly 39 inches of penetration—plenty good enough if you're looking to turn an old war relic into a whitetail-season staple.

MSRP: \$31.99 (box of 20)

07 Brownells Retro 4X AR Optic

Rounding up a reasonable facsimile of an original optic for your retro AR build became a world simpler, thanks to Brownells. Adding to its rich catalog of throwback rifles, this gun parts retailer now includes a dead ringer for the 1970 vintage Colt AR-15 carry handle optic. Exceeding simple looks, the Brownells Retro 4X is a performer, perhaps surpassing the original as a result of modern manufacturing processes. Because of its multi-coated lenses, fog-, waterproof and fine controls, you can dial in the scope to drive tacks. And, its slight duplex reticle and low power make it intuitive to use—not to mention that it's fast-moving from target to target. It's just the thing to crown your reproduction gem.

MSRP: \$299.99



RETRO REMINGTON 870 UPGRADE

A full tactical upgrade brings a 1960s 870 up to today's standards.



The Remington 870 is one of the most widely recognized firearms in all history. Designed in the early 1950s, the 870 is a bottom-loading, side-ejecting, pump-action shotgun with a tubular magazine underneath the barrel. There are hundreds of variants of the 870 shotgun in 12-, 16-, 20- and 28-gauges and .410 bore. After its release, the 870 became an essential tool in hunting, as well as for police, military and home-defense use, with millions of them sold to date.

MY GUN

In the early 1990s, I was told that a local gun store in Mesa, Arizona, had received

a large shipment of trade-in law enforcement Remington 870s, so I immediately paid it a visit. When I entered the store, I was greeted by a wall full of Remington 870s with wood stocks in various levels of cosmetic wear, both on the metal and the wood. I told the clerk I wanted to purchase one, but I wanted to shop around the store before doing all the paperwork.

I soon came to the same clerk with a Pachmayr pistol grip and forend kit I'd picked up to accompany my new purchase. At the time, I wanted something compact and fun (I honestly didn't know *what* I wanted), but this

sounded like a cool idea at the time.

The clerk asked me if I wanted the Pachmayr kit for the shotgun I was about to purchase, I nodded.

He said, "Well, then, I have just the right shotgun for you."

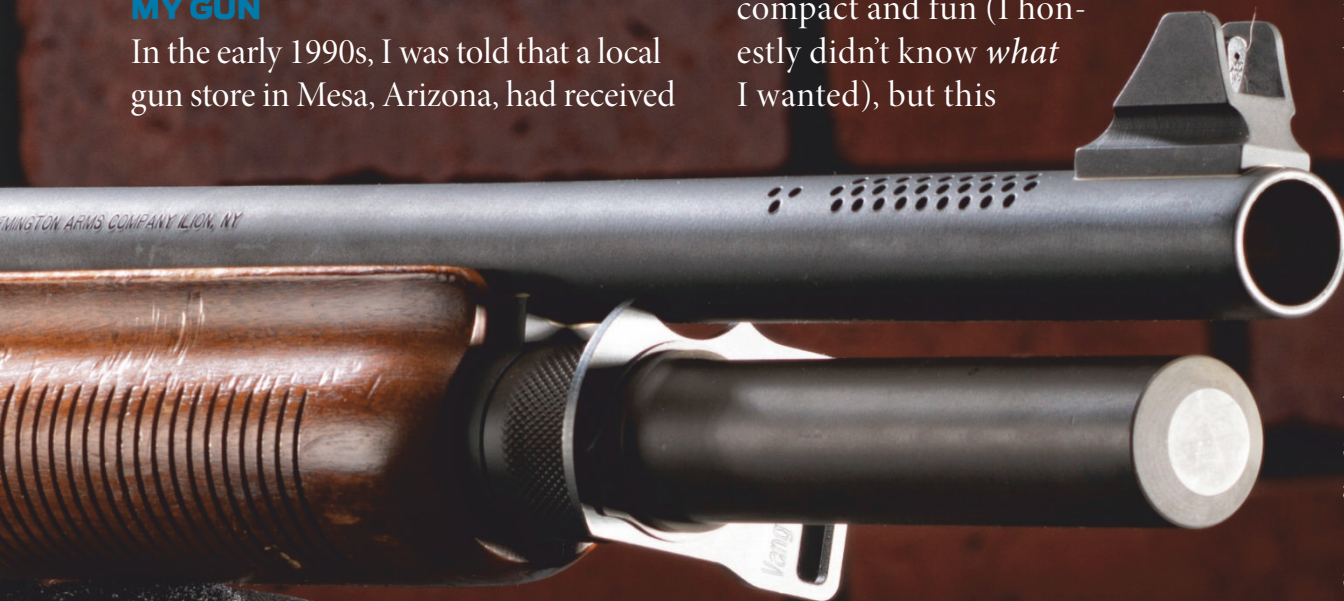
The clerk went to the back and retrieved one of those used police trade-in shotguns. But it had neither a stock nor a handguard. It only had a long screw coming out of the back of the receiver.

He explained that a couple of the guns came in with broken stocks or forends, so parts from several guns were cannibalized to repair others. As a result, there were some guns with no furniture. He then offered me a significant discount on the purchase.

I went home with my new purchase, and I was thrilled. I tried to find out as much as I could about my new 870—but this was the early '90s, so there was no Google, and the Internet was in its infancy. Consequently, I had more questions than answers.

The first one involved the "OHB" stamping on the left side of the receiver. Years later, I learned that the OHB was actually an overstamp: The "O" was originally a "C," and the "B" was originally a "P"—making the original marking "CHP," as in "California Highway Patrol." That made my purchase even cooler.

I enjoyed shooting my 870 for many years ... until I made the boneheaded decision to sell it to a friend. Years went by,



and I moved out of the Phoenix area.

However, I returned seven years later. One day, I became nostalgic about my old 870, reached out to my buddy and got the 870 back from him. It was still decked out with the same Pachmayr pistol grip and forearm.

I tried several combinations of stocks and forearms. I eventually decided on a SpeedFeed stock and synthetic forearm—and continued to enjoy my 870 for several years.

But, like many gun owners, I can't leave things well enough alone; I have to mess with them and make something good, such as the Remington 870, into something cool, something special.

I started to do some research. I also remembered that Vang Comp Systems, which had completed decades of excellent shotgun work, was only 100 miles away. Wanting something totally cool, I drove to its facility and asked the folks at Vang to do what was necessary to bring

my old, 1960s 870 to today's standards—and make it something ... *awesome*.

A COMPLETE TACTICAL UPGRADE

The 870 received Vang Comp Systems' "full tactical upgrade."

However, before starting with the upgrades, the 870 needed some TLC to get it up to modern reliability standards. The Vang staff installed the Flexi Tab updated bolt, bolt slide, forend tube assembly and carrier latch. They also installed a 3-inch

The compensation ports reduce muzzle flip, disperse muzzle flash and further reduce recoil.



Vang's detachable side ammunition carrier provides an onboard, removable ammunition source.

ejector with new rivets. In addition, both shell latches were replaced and triple staked—per the new standard.

Why the Flexi Tab? Well, for more than 30 years, production 870s had a design flaw: The user might fail to press a shell all the way into the magazine tube when loading. As a result, the shell latch didn't engage the shell and would cause a malfunction. When a shell slips out of the magazine under the bolt in the receiver, it binds the action, and the shotgun must be disassembled to complete the remedial action.

This issue was resolved with the introduction of the Flexi Tab carrier. Shotguns with this modification can be identified by the U-shaped cutout on the carrier, visible from the bottom of the shotgun. The cutout, combined with a modification on the underside of the slide assembly, allows

the action to be opened with a shell on the carrier.

After the Flexi-Tab upgrade was performed, Vang went to work with the really cool stuff:

VCS barrel with ports. This includes the patented Vang Comp System barrel modification of backboring and lengthened forcing cone to reduce recoil impulse and tighten up the shot patterns. Vang also added the compensation ports to reduce muzzle flip, disperse muzzle flash and further reduce recoil.

Ghost ring sights. Vang's wing-protected ghost ring sights are installed on the receiver, featuring a click-adjustable rear sight with an integral Picatinny rail. The kit also features an AR-15 front sight post from XS Sights.

Dome head safety. Vang's dome head safety is also included in the full tactical upgrade. Made of 4140 steel and finished in Nitridox, it's a bulletproof upgrade to any 870 on which you want to be able to

find the safety button without looking.

Stainless steel magazine follower. Vang's stainless steel magazine follower is also included with the full tactical upgrade. This piece offers a solid reliability upgrade over the "dinky" plastic follower that comes from the factory ... and requires replacement every two to four years. Ridges are cut into the outside diameter to reduce the bearing surface and to passively clean your mag tube (it scrapes dirt and debris into the recesses of the follower). My 870's follower now has a witness hole in its face, so when you feel a hole in there, you know the shotgun is empty without having to look.

+2 magazine extension. The magazine tube extension is also included. It's made from a single piece of American steel, so it's not prone to breakage. There are no seams or welds that can crack or split. In addition, a magazine clamp isn't required: It comes assembled with a removable and reversible steel sling plate. A high-power Wolff magazine spring is included with every 12-gauge magazine tube extension for increased feeding reliability with heavy recoiling loads, such as buckshot and slugs.

These are the parts that were removed and replaced by Vang Custom to complete the author's project.



D.S.A.C. Finally, Vang added a detachable side ammunition carrier for a removable, onboard ammunition source. Vang's specialized bolts can't be overtightened, and they don't require any special tools to install or remove. A steel insert in the aluminum side plate is used to ensure a tight hold and remove the possibility of stripping threads.

By the way, all Vang parts and components are made in the United States and are guaranteed for life.

FURNITURE FOR A CLASSIC LOOK

The last detail was the furniture.

Originally, I wanted a modern, tacti-cool look for my shotgun but, after careful consideration, I opted for a more classic look; something that would've been used by the California Highway Patrol in the early 1960s.

I asked the guys at Vang if they could help me with my request. The answer was a resounding, Yes! They quickly searched through their parts bins and found me the perfect stock set ... with enough scuffs and scratches to give it the perfect look



02

01. (Bottom left): Vang's wing-protected ghost ring sights are installed on the receiver with a click-adjustable rear sight featuring an integral Picatinny rail.

02. The front sight is an AR-15 front sight post from XS Sights.

03. A detachable side ammunition carrier provides an onboard, removable ammunition source.

04. The rear sling stud is mounted on the stocks grip, just as it might have been installed by a police department armorer.

05. This extension tube is made from a single piece of American steel. There are no seams or welds that can crack or split, and there's a sling plate that's removable and reversible.



03



01



04



05

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Vang's Dome Head Safety is a bullet-proof upgrade for any 870 on which you want to be able to find the safety button without looking.

and feel. The sling stud is even mounted on the stock pistol grip—the way a California Highway Patrol armorer would have installed it in the 1960s or '70s.

After I retrieved my completed 870, I had to admire the effort and craftsmanship the Vang crew put into my shotgun, starting with a silky-smooth action, crisp trigger pull and impeccable finish. I couldn't believe this almost-60-year-old shotgun looks and feels as if it just came off the assembly line.

AT THE RANGE

I made a quick trip to my local indoor range (C2 Tactical in Scottsdale, Arizona) for a quick test-fire-and-pattern test. I used Remington Ultimate Defense 9 Pellet 00 Buck Shot with a muzzle velocity of 1,325 fps. After a few rounds of test firing,

I decided to pattern the shotgun at 5, 10 and 15 yards, because I wanted to find out how the improvements done by Vang would perform at these distances.

At 5 yards, all nine pellets were clumped into a group not much larger than 1 inch, with the wad impacting about 2 inches above the pellets. At 10 yards, the group spread out a little to an impressive 2½ inches, with the wad impacting about 3 inches to the left of the group. Finally, at 15 yards, the group increased to 5½ inches—all within the vital center-of-mass area of the standard Gunsite target and with the wad not impacting the target.

I'm aware that depending on ammunition,

results will vary, and I'm planning to test various types of ammunition to figure out which one will be the optimal round to match the improved performance of this old warhorse.

Looking back at the last 25-plus years since I purchased this shotgun, a lot has changed: Equipment has changed, as has ammunition. Even so, the shotgun is still one of the most utilitarian tools for hunting, recreational shooting, law enforcement and self-defense.

This particular shotgun is about 60 years old, but all that tender loving care by the group of professionals at Vang Custom gave it a new life. My 870 will now serve me and members of my family for many decades to come. **GDTM**

For up-close distances at which the shotgun excels, a peep/ghost-ring sight is the perfect tactical and practical solution.



KNOW YOUR FACTS!

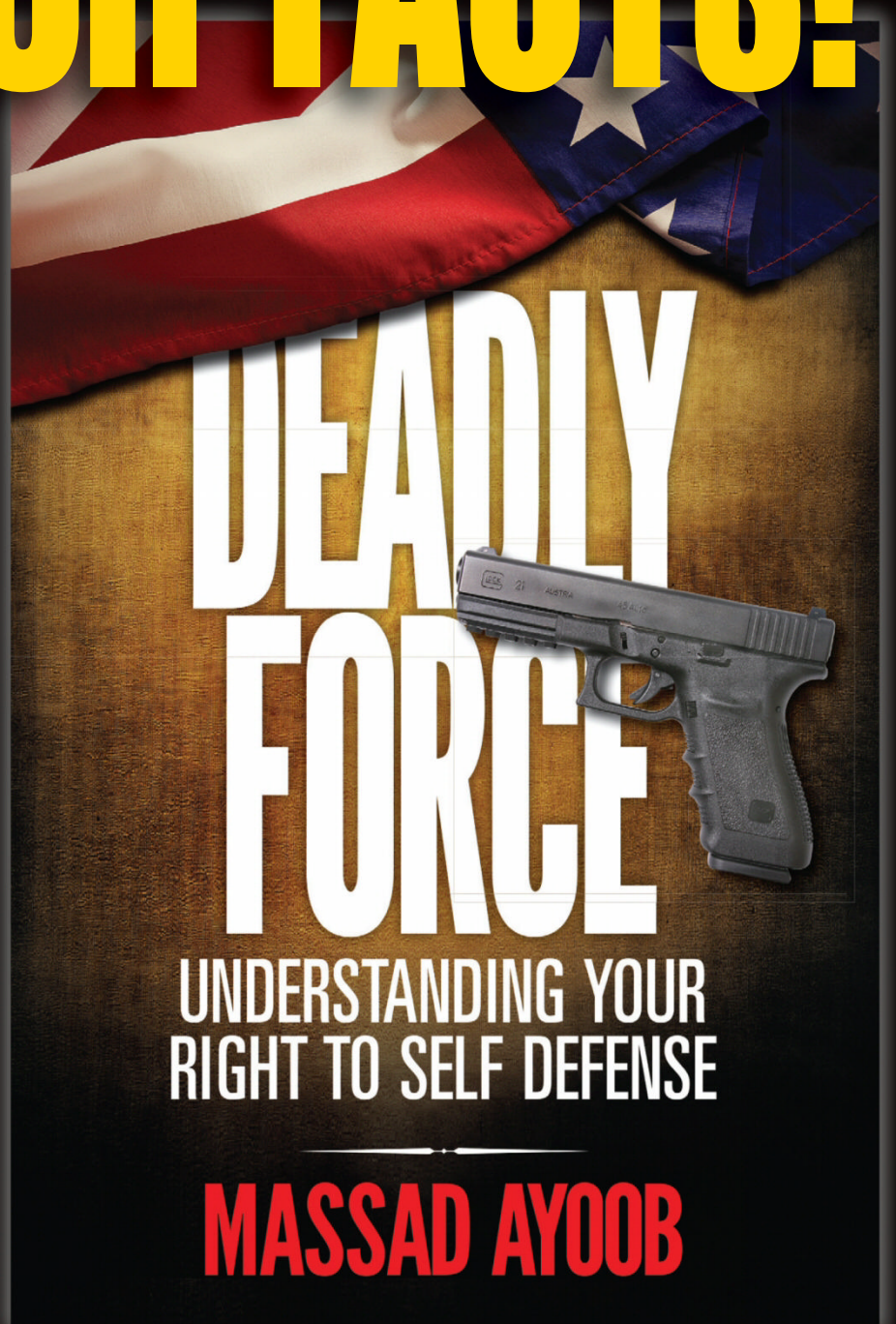
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This is the kind of iron you used to see in guns shops back in the good, old days ... well, in the medium-old days, anyway.

OLD-SCHOOL IRON

Classic guns must have either jaw-dropping looks or a storied history. Ideally, they've got both.

Working in gun shops around Detroit, we used to have regular visitors of types you rarely see any more. Once a week, a month or even a few days in a row, someone would walk in, holding a box or a case.

They'd inevitably start with, "I bought a house in Detroit, and ..." or "My grandparents moved to Florida, and I found ..." and then open the

box or case to reveal a firearm.

Given the age of the homeowners (the old homeowners, not the new ones), along with the fact that many of them were veterans, the iron in question was often something back from a war.

The shops I worked in were not alone in this, and it was common to walk into another gun shop and see something pre-1945 in the used case.

Here are a few of the common handguns you'd see.

LUGER

A Luger—of *course*! There wasn't a trophy more desired than a Luger. The ones you saw in gun shops were the ones with no "papers." The ones with "bring-back papers"—the official permission given by the Army—were snapped up by collectors.

Mine started life as a "sneak" pistol, manufactured by BKIW in 1929. In order to get around the Versailles Treaty limitations on production volume, it had no chamber date.

Mine wasn't made for military use; it was meant to be used as a police pistol. As a result, it had the Weimar-required "police safety," a modified sideplate with a spring clip on top. A bit of history and a warning: If you disassemble a Luger with a round in the chamber, it can remain cocked—and be fired in the disassembled state. I'm not making this up! German police officers apparently did just this often enough to require a regulation and a design change. The safety prevents firing when so (and incorrectly) disassembled. Mine also had a magazine



01

01. The author's Luger was made without a date stamp on the chamber—because Germany was making more of them than the Versailles Treaty allowed.

02. The author's Luger went to the Hildesheim Rural Police and was logged as weapon number 134.



02

03. If you see this spring clip on the sideplate of a Luger, it was installed due to Weimar police regulations requiring it.



03



Yep, eight shots of .32 ACP at the ready—and with a spare magazine buried in the full-flap holster, too.

disconnecter, but those were all (or almost all) removed when the regulations were changed.

My Luger went to the Hildesheim Rural Police District, where it was inventoried and marked as weapon number 134. Where it was and what happened between 1945 (when it was probably snatched up by a GI in Germany) and my acquiring it, I have no idea. From 1900 through 1945, around 3 million Lugers had been made. And yet, they aren't commonly seen.

CZ 27

When the Germans invaded a country, they usually kept the small arms and military industrial production capacity of the conquered country up and running. A lot of the second-line armored vehicles and many trucks were Czech, French, Polish and so on. The CZ 27 (aka Vz 27) is a blowback .32 pistol (for a long time, Europeans were really enamored of the .32) with a complicated manufacturing process, but it was reliable, accurate and dependable.

With an eight-round magazine and all the throw-weight of the thundering .32 ACP, it isn't Thor's hammer. However, it was made in large quantities (more than 450,000 during the war) and was issued to army and police units.

The interesting thing about the CZ 27 is the safety. That tiny, little lever that you see behind the trigger? That's the

safety. Press it down until it clicks, and it'll lock in place—but only when the hammer is cocked. The safety (as much as you're willing to trust it) is on. How do you get the safety off in order to fire it? You press the small button underneath the safety lever. The lever pops up, and you're ready to go.

As mechanically clever as that might be, I suspect that the vast majority of users during the European "fracas" carried it with the safety off—with an empty chamber—and racked the slide when they had need of a supply of .32-caliber "Europellets."

Obviously, this isn't a pistol you'd be choosing for an IPSC, IDPA or other competition.

P-35

No, *not* the Belgian Hi Power. The Polish one—the VIS35, the Polish 9mm single-stack pistol. As a newly reconstituted

country after World War I, Poland began building up its armed forces and arms manufacturing. It bought what it needed to start, but it wanted to have the arms manufacture it needed under its own control (always a wise idea ... as we've since discovered with pharmaceuticals from China).

The P35 is an all-steel, single-stack 9mm that's perhaps the strongest 9mm ever made. It's also ... odd.

That lever on the left side on the slide is a decocking lever. The one below it on the frame is a takedown lever. No, it's not a thumb safety. But there is a grip safety.

The Polish manual of arms called for loading the pistol, chambering a round and then using the decocking lever to drop the hammer. Then, when you needed to shoot it, you'd thumb the hammer back. Or, if you were Polish cavalry, you'd run the hammer against your saddle.

The VIS35 was relatively rare here, in the United States, for one simple reason: Most of those (the Poles made 50,000; the Germans made 350,000 of them)

The Sauer 38H controls. The lever on the slide is the safety, and the lever behind the trigger is the cocking/uncocking gizmo.

Every good combat pistol has to have a loaded chamber indicator ... right?



or a very clever fake. Why were they unsure? It was the only one they or anyone they knew “in the business” had ever seen in real life.

FEG 37M

Known to shoppers back in the day as the “Femaru,” this was another local design taken over by the Germans (well, *bought* by the Germans, because Hungary was an ally, not a conquered territory). The original—the Hungarian model—was in .380 and lacked a thumb safety. The Germans wanted them in .32, and they insisted on a thumb safety. Once the war was up and fully running, the Germans sent inspectors to the Femaru plant. There, you’d have seen wartime pistols with the Waffenamt and acceptance stamp, per German regulations.

The FEG 37M is the first of the pistols we’re looking at here that had a factory lanyard loop installed. On the Femaru, the mag catch was a heel clip. Right next to it was the pivoting lanyard loop.

As a 28-ounce pistol chambered in .32 ACP, the recoil isn’t anything to pay much attention to. It’s accurate and reliable (curiously, even cheap .32s can be quite accurate, and the FEG37M was not made cheaply), but the magazine capacity is only seven rounds.

There were only some 80,000 of these made, and the majority of them went not to the German army, but to the Luftwaffe. Nevertheless, they weren’t sent in specific serial number blocks, nor were they marked as such.

SAUER 38H

This is one of my favorites—and it’s another oddity. It’s a single-/double-action pistol with a lever behind the trigger for that work. You can decock it by using the lever. You can then re-cock it using the lever. The lever is spring loaded and pops up—regardless of whether it’s cocked or uncocked. But, there’s a safety lever on the slide that has to be at “fire” to do any of that. The hole drilled through the trigger, up near the frame, was more or less the “cocked”/“uncocked” indicator. On the back of the slide is a

The Germans didn’t even bother changing the molds that made the grips. The VIS was the same ... until the Germans had to really cut costs and go to emergency production.



Here’s how you start taking apart the VIS35: Unload and then lock the slide back. That’s all that lever does.

went to the Eastern Front. About the only way a GI could lay hands on one was if his unit captured a German unit that had been rotated from Russia to France for R&R. This wasn’t unusual. Units that had been hard-used on the Eastern Front would be sent to France,

given replacements, allowed to rest, re-equip and train, and then get sent back to Russia.

The rarest of the rare is a shoulder stock for the VIS35. I saw one in a Belgian military museum, and the experts there were not entirely sure if it was real

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loaded-chamber indicator.

This one was only made to the tune of some 116,000 pistols, but it went to the army, Luftwaffe and Waffen SS. Like the others, it's an all-steel pistol, and it's chambered in .32 ACP. However, this one, at least, was even more accurate than the usual, quite-accurate .32 pistol.

Back in the 1980s, my gun club had fairly portable steel silhouettes for pistol practice. I won a number of bets getting hits at 50 yards on the steel with a "Nazi .32 pocket pistol." I'd usually wager five hits in a row for 10 bucks. And, after I made the five hits, I'd bet double or nothing that I could finish the magazine with hits. I never lost, because with the ammo it liked, my Sauer 38H could keep all its shots inside the "A" zone of an IPSC target at 50 yards.

Oh, and the "H" designation? It indicated that it wasn't striker fired but used a concealed hammer.

P-38

I never warmed up to it; I never acquired

one, I still don't own one to this day. Sorry about that.

TROPHY PISTOLS

Pretty much everything any enemy soldier was carrying—short of personal property (and even then, some of that wasn't safe)—was a souvenir. GIs were like locusts, sweeping up whatever was attractive and carrying it, trading it, wagering it in poker games or even mailing it back home. And because police officers were essentially just localized military units in the German organizational structure, what they carried got snapped up as well.

My late father was cheerful in describing the first German "soldier" they captured in Germany ... only to find out he was an armed tram conductor (this was more humorous and less hazardous than the first time they encountered a Waffen SS unit).

So, despite the assurance that "it came off a dead Waffen SS major/Panzer commander/fill-in-the-prestigious-enemy-combatant," most of the pistols brought back were taken from German NCOs. There were a lot more sergeants,

machine-gun crew members and the like. And they all received a pistol of some kind. In addition to the NCOs and others who were issued pistols, they were issued or authorized to police, postal and railway security, factory guards, forestry officials and all the various "suits" who ran bureaus, agencies, commissions and the secret police.

Once captured, these men were relieved of their sidearms, medals and sometimes, even uniform jackets and any other souvenirs.

These items were stuffed into a duffel bag, which GIs then hauled onto a ship and then back home. Once home, no one really cared all that much (except for a few jurisdictions).

That's how we came to see a regular stream of such pistols in the 1980s as our veterans started slipping away.

Today? An entire generation of collectors has been snatching them out of gun shops, off gun show tables and from the estates of earlier collectors. To see any of these today in a gun shop is a near miracle. Back then, these pistols were very common. And now, I regret that I passed them by. **GDTM**

Here you see the finger-hook magazine, the magazine catch and the lanyard loop that's built into the frame.



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This target has been scored. A total of 55 points was obtained by shooting—with two additional points added for completing the drill one full second less than 30.



LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT

A Test for Riflemen.

How good a rifle shot are you? Do you *really* know? It's a valid question, because you need to know your capabilities before you have to pull a trigger when it matters.

Since I became involved in writing about guns, I've been looking for a protocol I could use to evaluate the suitability of a practical rifle; more specifically—how the rifle interfaces with the shooter.

Sometime back, I settled on the Forty-Five Drill to do exactly the same thing with defensive handguns. I also found it to be an excellent tool to evaluate shooter skill. I wanted the same simple drill—sort of a qualification course—I could use for the same purpose with rifles and riflemen.

THE LOGIC OF QUALIFICATION

There are many different qualification courses for the rifleman. The Army requires a soldier to hit 23 out of 40 pop-up silhouette targets from between 5 and 300 meters. With a 90 percent success rate, a soldier receives an “expert”

ranking. The Marines use a similar, but tougher, course that's arguably less practical. And the NRA offers a four-position, high-power rifle qualification that requires 50 shots fired at distances from 200 to 600 yards. Target type varies with distance, and an 80 percent score makes you an expert.

All these courses require lots of shooting. They also allow you to miss targets and still rank as expert. I fail to see the logic here; as Jeff Cooper said, “The purpose of shooting is hitting.”

I believe a marksmanship test should require *every* round fired to hit the target.

Why? Well, Cooper was right: The purpose of shooting *is* hitting. Failure to hit your target represents either a miscarriage of instruction or a failure to learn.

Let's look at it another way. If a police officer is allowed to qualify with misses, how can you defend the officer who shot at a bad guy, missed and hit an innocent bystander? The same applies



The first stage of the Rifleman Test involves shooting from the standing, unsupported position.



Hunters can frequently be called on to perform a “snapshot,” which is why it's included in the Rifleman Test.



The second engagement in the Rifleman Test involves a shot from the kneeling position.

A good shooting sling can make all the difference when field shooting. To use it quickly and effectively, it needs to be adjusted properly.



The third engagement within the Rifleman Test is fired from the seated position. This can be a very stable position. It's also flexible, allowing for different positioning of the legs to suit the shooter and situation.

to soldiers: If you allow them to qualify with misses, don't be upset when they don't hit the enemy; you knew it was coming. With hunters, it's no different, and it's one reason that too many take shots they *know* they can't make.

TESTING A RIFLEMAN

In order to test a rifleman, you must know what a "rifleman" is. The dictionary definition is: (1) a soldier armed with a rifle; (2) a person skilled in the use of a rifle. This is a very general definition and is akin to calling a man who's skilled with a sharp cutting instrument a "surgeon."

I believe a rifleman should be able to hit his target from common positions—standing, kneeling, sitting and prone. I'm talking about basic rifleman skills anyone considered a "rifleman" should be able to demonstrate *on demand*. "On demand" means fulfilling an urgent or pressing need—right now, without warm-up. This "urgent or pressing need"



The ability to execute an accurate and fast shot from the standing position—i.e., a "snapshot"—is something Jeff Cooper considered a critical skill for a rifleman.



The kneeling position is only slightly steadier than the standing position, but it gives the shooter the opportunity to take advantage of moderately high cover and/or concealment.

establishes that the shooting must occur in a hurry or within a certain amount of time. Regardless of the situation, if time isn't an issue, shooting is probably not needed.

This leaves us with determining the target to be hit and the distance at which it should be shot. However, beyond their practicality, neither is that important. It's just as hard to hit a 3-inch target at 25 yards as it is a 12-inch target at 100 yards. If you increase the distance and target size by a factor of four, the difficulty remains the same.

With that in mind, few practical applications of a rifle require a target any smaller than 3 inches in diameter to be hit. If you can hit a snuff can quickly—and on demand—you're demonstrating *practical* rifle application.

PRACTICAL RIFLEMAN, PRACTICAL TEST

If we're to measure the practical ability of a rifleman, the test should also be practical. There's no call for firing several boxes of ammunition, and there's no need for shooting at excessive distances. The goal is to see if the shooter can hit targets—quickly—from the four basic positions. So, a practical test should not necessitate impractical resources.

Most shooters have access to a 100-yard range and a box of ammunition. If you can't measure practical rifle skill within those confines, the test or qualification is, well, impractical.

Additionally, a practical qualification should be hard. I don't mean hard to take, but hard to complete with a passing or positive rating. You wouldn't consider the skills of an *unpracticed* rifleman to be practical, and you'd expect an unpracticed rifleman to fail any test designed to measure practical abilities.

THE QUALIFICATION

With influence from Jeff Cooper and a practice regime used by the great and early-1900s adventurer and marksman, Stewart Edward White, I developed the Rifleman Test. It reflects the practical application of a rifle and is built around

four single-shot engagements that represent real-world scenarios. The exercise is also timed because, as we've established, if time isn't an issue, shooting probably isn't necessary.

Engagement #1—The Snapshot: With a par time of three seconds, start with the rifle at the high-ready position. At the signal, fire a single shot from the standing position at a 12-inch target placed at 100 yards. This is a variation of a drill Jeff Cooper promoted. The concept is that you might have to quickly shoot a dangerous-game animal that's charging and near or a human threat at a greater distance.

Engagement #2—Kneeling: Start in the same position, but at the buzzer, hit a 9-inch circle at 100 yards from the kneeling position within eight seconds. Although kneeling is better than standing, it's not the most stable intermediate position. However, it provides the ability to utilize low concealment when hunting or low cover in a fight. It's also the fastest intermediate position to assume.

Engagement #3—Sitting: The seated position is the most stable intermediate position and is best used in conjunction with cover or concealment too high to permit shooting from prone, but not high enough to necessitate kneeling. Starting at high-ready, acquire the seated position and hit a 6-inch target at 100 yards in fewer than nine seconds.

Engagement #4—Prone: As the most stable field position, prone provides the best chance for hitting. Start by standing at high-ready, drop prone and hit a 3-inch circle at 100 yards in fewer than 10 seconds. Why not use a *smaller* target? Because, practically speaking, that level of precision isn't necessary. For hunting or fighting, a bullet that lands within 1.5 inches of the desired point of aim is sufficient. (By the way, bipods are permitted but can't be deployed before the timer starts.)

Now, while these drills can be performed individually, ideally, they're combined with a par time of 30 seconds. This adds stress and requires the rifleman to move fluidly between field positions. To conduct the test, you

need a proper target, a 100-yard range, a shot timer and a box of ammunition.

The target should be a circle with 3-, 6-, 9- and 12-inch scoring rings. For a while, I made these by drawing on a cardboard IPSC target, but this was unpractical as hell: It took longer to make the target than to shoot at it! After some searching, I found the Birchwood Casey DirtyBird target (stock number: BC-35830) with scoring rings of the proper diameter.

SCORING

Shots inside the 3-inch circle count for 20; inside the 6-inch ring, 15; 10 for inside the 9-inch ring and 5 for hits inside the 12-inch ring.

I know what you're thinking: Each stage shoots at an increasingly smaller target. So, if you shoot a string of four shots at one target, how will you know which shot landed in which ring? You won't, and it doesn't matter. As they say,



With field shooting, the position that puts your barrel closest to the ground will be the steadiest.



Left, right and below: The fourth stage of the Rifleman Test is fired from the prone position, which is the steadiest of all field positions.



Bottom: The seated shooting position can be greatly enhanced with a quality and properly adjusted shooting sling. Learn to use one well so it doesn't take you too long to sling-up.



Although prone is the steadiest of the field shooting positions, quite often, the terrain or situation will not permit shooting from this position. This, of course, makes the other three positions that much more important.

“With field shooting, the position that puts your barrel closest to the ground will be the steadiest.”

From the seated position, the shooter can cross or spread their legs for optimal comfort and support.



Man-made targets such as this one were originally used for the Rifleman Test. They work great but take too long to make.



“A blind squirrel can sometimes find a nut.” What this means is that sometimes, a shooter of only moderate skill can make a great shot. When that happens, that shot counts no more or less than when a shooter of superior skill makes it.

With exceptional shooting, 80 points (four hits inside the 3-inch ring) are possible. To qualify, a minimum of 50—with at least one hit within each circle with no misses—is required. Referring back to the “blind squirrel” philosophy, if a rifleman can obtain 50 points in 30 seconds with no misses, it doesn’t matter *how* those points are obtained. Additionally, for every full second less than 30, add two points; and for every full second over 30, subtract two points.

There are two ways to run this qualification. The first is to perform a single run/four shots. As with the Forty-Five Drill, this gives the rifleman a one-time—on-demand—opportunity to exhibit their skill level. On the other hand, you can run the drill five times (20 shots) to establish an aggregate score.

LESSONS LEARNED

I’ve been running similar drills for years, and the first time I tried the Rifleman Test, I used my Wilson Combat AR15 in .300 Hamr and managed 75 points. But,

it took me too long—45 seconds. So, my final score was a *failing* 45. I ran it four more times for an average score of 54.6, with a best run of 65.

What did I learn? The same things *you* can learn from performing this qualification. I found out my shooting was not the problem; rather, my weakness was not assuming the positions fast enough to give me the necessary time to make a good shot. I also learned that I really needed to sling-up to make a good shot from a kneeling position and that I had to get better (faster) at doing that.

Running the course with my Model Seven Scout Rifle from the Remington Custom Shop, I found that for best performance, I needed to keep the 2-7X Scout scope set at a midrange magnification and that I had to concentrate on working the bolt quickly as part of shot follow-through. In my best run, I scored 65. Four runs with a Marlin 336 Dark in .30-30 Winchester produced an average score of 45 and a best of 60. Interestingly, average times with all three rifles were within seconds of each other, and my weaknesses were similar.

RANKINGS

The best use of this qualification—*any* qualification—is self-evaluation. But shooters like to know how they stack up. You can rate your performance with a score of 50 to 59 as “rifleman,” 60 to 69 as “marksman,” 70 to 79 as “expert”; and, if you can get four hits inside the 3-inch circle in 30 seconds—80 points—you’re a damned fine rifleman and should be considered to be of a distinguished skill level.

My suggestion is that you film your attempts. That’s easy, now that we all have smartphones. This allows you to use the video to self-critique your performance. You’ll see how long it takes you to transition between positions, sling-up and operate your rifle’s action. This will help you perform better in the field—when it really matters.

How do you get better at getting the good hits? Hell, that’s simple: Perfect your ability to hold the sights on the target as you press the trigger. **GDTM**

GOING THE



In his thick Scottish accent, Ronnie Hepburn asked me a simple question: “Can you shoot with all these midgies!?”

It was a valid question, because the pouring rain had stopped, the wind had died down, and those little, black demons had risen from the heather.

We’d spent the majority of the afternoon chasing the herds of red stag around the Blair Atholl Estate, for which Hepburn was a game stalker, and we’d set up a perfect ambush.

With the old stag, which had been rolling in the peat while tending his hinds, facing head on at 245 yards, I leaned the forend of the graceful Rigby

Highland Stalker on Hepburn’s pack, let my breath halfway out, gave the stag 6 inches of elevation and squeezed the trigger.

The sound of the Hornady 165-grain InterLock from the .30-06 Springfield striking flesh was undeniable and, within 25 yards, the stag was down for good. Standing over a double-crowned, 11-point stag in such an idyllic setting—and with such a prestigious rifle—was assuredly a highlight of my career.

Being a bullet guy, I wondered to myself why they hadn’t opted to use a premium bullet for such a unique opportunity. I came to the conclusion

that the reason they used a conventional bullet was simply because it worked perfectly for the job at hand.

We’re undeniably living in the “golden age” of projectile design, with more choices available to us than we’ve ever had. Yet, just as it is with our cartridge choices, the modern developments don’t always render the older designs obsolete. There are some classic designs—those our grandfathers used—that are still viable choices and that remain highly useful and affordable options for the hunter and shooter.

Let’s look at some of those designs and how they apply to the range and hunting fields.

DISTANCE

A historic approach to time-proven projectiles: Some designs simply don't age.



THE HORNADY INTERLOCK

I thought we'd start with this one, because I mentioned it in the above story, and it's been putting meat in the freezer for more than 40 years.

Joyce W. Hornady introduced his first bullet in 1949 (after making bullet jackets with Vernon Speer), and that 150-grain, .308-inch-caliber spire-point developed his reputation.

Continuous development led to the 1977 release of the InterLock bullet, a rework of the 1965 InnerGroove bullet, but with a cannellure that locks together the lead core and copper jacket. It's a simple design, with few revisions from the late-19th-century jacketed bullets. However,



Hornady's Custom load for the .275 Rigby is built around the 140-grain InterLock and gave 1/3 MOA from this Highland Stalker.

it's refined enough to give the accuracy and terminal performance that hunters desire.

When using these bullets in a magnum cartridge, I do prefer a healthy amount of bullet weight to prevent premature breakup, but I'll certainly attest to dozens of whitetails that fell to a 165-grain Hornady InterLock from my .308 Winchester. It was the first component bullet I ever loaded and hunted with. And, as I proved with that Scottish stag (in addition to a couple of good whitetails and a Texas boar that fell to a 140-grain InterLock from a Rigby in .275 Rigby), it's "enough" bullet.

Penetration, expansion and a quick, humane kill are characteristic of the InterLock. Hornady has some amazing premium bullets—from the GMX, ELD-X to the DGX Bonded. But, for the annual fall deer hunt, it's hard to argue with the InterLock.

THE NOSLER PARTITION

Perhaps on the other end of the spectrum,

The .280 Ackley Improved mates well with the 162-grain Hornady InterLock spitzer boattail.



John A. Nosler's brainchild was designed to combat all the inherent issues associated with weaker bullet designs.

Nosler was carrying a .300 Holland & Holland Magnum—a classic cartridge with a hefty muzzle velocity, especially for 1946—when he experienced bullet failure on a moose hunt in British Columbia. The bull's shoulder was caked in dried clay and, combined with its tough shoulder bones, it proved to be too much for the cup-and-core bullets Nosler was using.

Those projectiles were breaking up on impact and were failing to penetrate

into the vital organs. Nosler decided to build a bullet that couldn't fail—and he did so. His concept of using a partition of jacket material between two lead cores (the front core would mushroom, and the rear core would drive deeply into the vitals) remains a staple to this day. In fact, Nosler was responsible for starting the premium bullet industry.

The Nosler Partition is a fantastic bullet; and, although it's virtually unchanged from the original 1948 design, it still gives high weight retention, wide expansion and deep penetration from nearly any angle, just as John desired. It's suitable for

The author took this Scottish red stag with a 165-grain Hornady InterLock from a Rigby Highland Stalker in .30-06 Springfield.



The author's custom .350 Rigby Magnum is well-served by both 250-grain Nosler Partitions and 250-grain Hornady InterLocks.



nearly all game animals that are hunted with soft-point (expanding) bullets, including feral hogs, pronghorn, elk, moose, bear and even Cape buffalo. While it might not have eye-popping B.C. values, it gives a useable trajectory and retains plenty of energy ... out to sane distances. I used a Nosler Partition to take my best whitetail buck in my native New York's famous Catskill Mountains, where the black bears grow to "respectable" proportions.

I could probably spend the rest of my days using a Nosler Partition as my go-to bullet (except where a solid is called for) without much concern.

THE REMINGTON CORE-LOKT

"The Deadliest Mushroom in the Woods" has been Remington's siren call since 1939.

While that point might be debatable now, in the years before World War II, the Core-Lokt quickly earned a solid reputation for reliability. Remington's "mushroom" was among the first controlled-expansion designs, with a copper jacket—which gets thicker at

the base—"locked" into the lead core by means of a cannellure. Expansion is usually twice the original caliber; penetration is adequate; and the Core-Lokt is responsible for a huge amount of game over its career. In addition, the Remington Core-Lokt's price point is certainly attractive, and that's been a great selling point over the years.

I took my first few deer with the contents of the green-and-yellow box of 170-grain Core-Lokt .30-30 Winchester ammo, so it has a special place in my hunting memories.

Is it a great choice for heavyweights such as brown bear and bison? Frankly, there are better choices for that job, but the Core-Lokt is one helluva deer bullet. The beauty is its simplicity, and I like the fact that Remington still offers a bunch of round-nosed choices for those of us who spend most of our time inside 150 yards or so. It's been my experience that

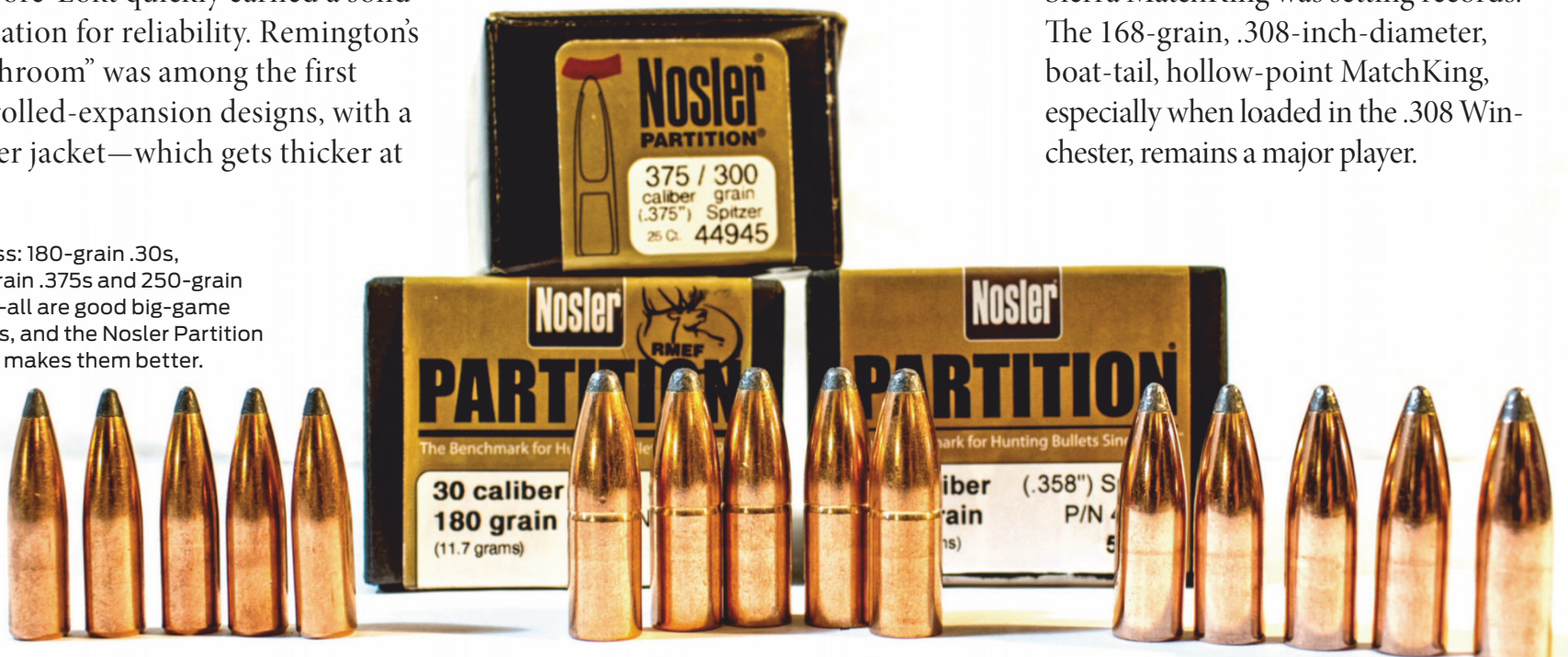
round-nosed bullets transfer their energy quite rapidly; you can almost see the animal shudder on impact. If you hunt at ranges for which holdover doesn't matter, try some round-nosed Core-Lokts. You could quickly become a fan.

THE SIERRA MATCHKING

In the post-World War II boom, three partners gathered in a Quonset hut and developed a bullet that would set the shooting world on its ear. That bullet—the #1400 .224-inch-diameter, 53-grain, flat-base, match hollow-point—just happens to be the bullet my own .22-250 Remington likes best. Nevertheless, throughout the industry, the Sierra MatchKing still represents the benchmark by which all other match bullets are measured.

Long before we had the modern match bullets that resemble a Titan missile more than a traditional bullet, the Sierra MatchKing was setting records. The 168-grain, .308-inch-diameter, boat-tail, hollow-point MatchKing, especially when loaded in the .308 Winchester, remains a major player.

Success: 180-grain .30s, 300-grain .375s and 250-grain .358s—all are good big-game choices, and the Nosler Partition design makes them better.



My dad still has a 1970s-vintage box of .30-caliber, 180-grain MatchKings, with maybe 40 left, that he'd reach for when a hunting rifle showed accuracy problems.

"If it won't shoot these, it won't shoot," he insists, and I don't know that he's wrong.

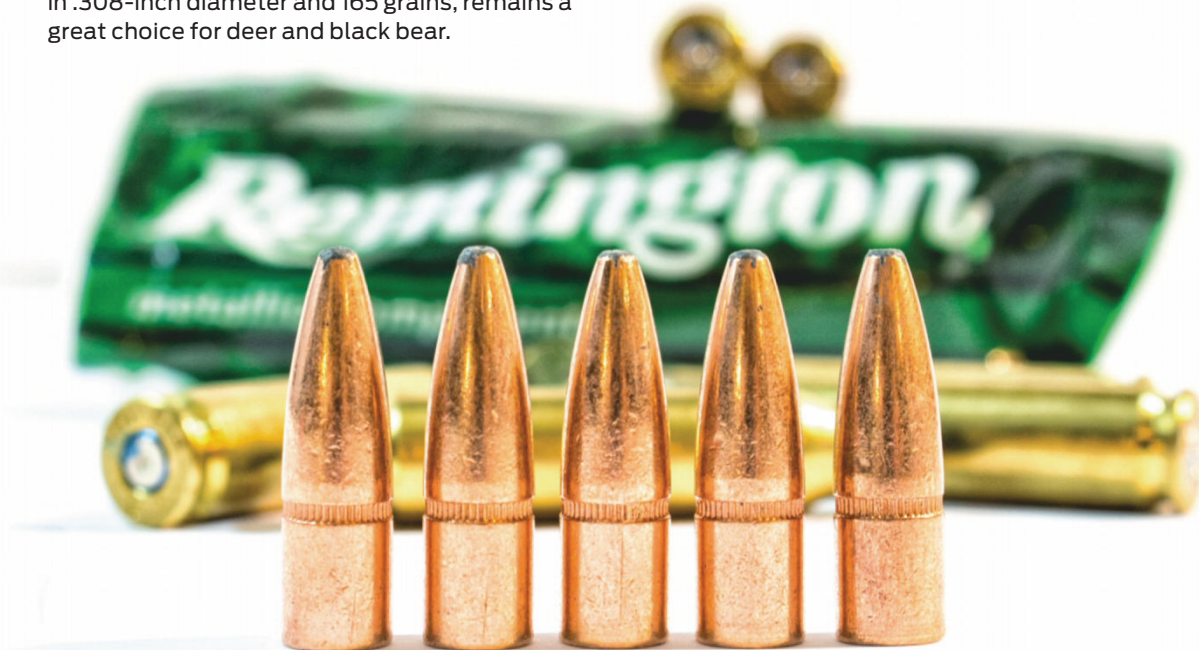
Sierra continues to expand the MatchKing line, with some excellent offerings in 6mm, 6.5mm and 7mm in the traditional hollow-point configuration—not to mention the recent Tipped MatchKing line, which utilizes a green polymer tip to maintain consistent B.C. values. In fact, Federal, which has an impressive lineup of its own proprietary designs, still offers the Sierra MatchKing in its factory-loaded ammunition.

Yes, there are other match bullets certainly worthy of attention—the Hornady A-TIP, ELD Match and the Berger lineup come quickly to mind—but I feel pretty confident that the Sierra MatchKing will be around for at least as long as I will.

THE SPEER GRAND SLAM

Vernon Speer was a pioneer in the component bullet industry. Just after

The famous Remington Core-Lokt, shown here in .308-inch diameter and 165 grains, remains a great choice for deer and black bear.



World War II ended, he and Joyce Hornady were transforming spent .22 LR cases into bullet jackets. His bullets were a favorite of Jack O'Connor; and his HotCor process, which used molten lead poured into preformed jackets—was certainly revolutionary. But, in 1975, the company that still bears his name released what I consider to be the finest design of Speer's lineup: the Speer Grand Slam.

The original design used two lead cores of differing hardness in order

to mitigate overly rapid expansion. Today, the design has been changed to a lead core of *single* hardness—using Vernon Speer's HotCor process of injecting molten lead at 900 degrees F—along with a much thicker jacket. The result is a strong and accurate bullet that offers a blend of desirable expansion, as well as the deep penetration that ends in a quick kill.

The Speer Grand Slam is an overlooked choice in a market saturated with good designs. I like the Grand

Federal's .308 Winchester match load featuring the 168-grain Sierra MatchKing is fantastically accurate.

Sierra's #1400—the first MatchKing. A 53-grain, flat-base hollow-point, it's the author's bullet-of-choice for the .22-250 Remington.





The Speer Grand Slam is affordable, accurate and available in calibers suitable for all sorts of big-game applications.

Slam as a black bear bullet at closer ranges (say, inside 250 yards), because it's strong enough to break bones yet soft enough to expand reliably on lung shots. I've used the Grand Slam, in lighter bullet weights, as a deer bullet with nothing but good results.

These bullets are wonderfully affordable, with a box of 50 ranging from \$15 to \$27, and are available in many of the common diameters and weights. Want a great practice/plains game bullet for your .375 H&H or .375 Ruger? Look to the 285-grain Speer Grand Slam.

If you're hunting bears on a budget with your .308 or .30-06, 165- or 180-grain Grand Slam engenders all sorts of confidence. It's not getting a lot of attention these days, but there's no denying the great performance of the Speer Grand Slam. **GDTM**



MY FAVORITE BULLET RECIPES

Here's an excerpt from what the author calls the "Massaro Family Cookbook." It comprises a few favorite handloads and factory loads that have provided much fun at the bench and in the woods for many years.

CARTRIDGE	BULLET	POWDER	POWDER CHARGE (grains)	PRIMER	VELOCITY (fps)	ACCURACY (MOA)
.308 Winchester	165-grain Hornady InterLock	IMR4064	44.5	CCI 200	2,700	0.9
.275 Rigby	140-grain Hornady Interlock factory load	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,680	0.3
.30-06 Springfield	165-grain Hornady InterLock factory load	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,800	1.0
.300 Winchester Magnum	180-grain Hornady InterLock	Reloder 19	73.0	Rem. 9½ M	2,920	0.8
.318 Westley Richards	205-grain Hornady Interlock	IMR4166	52.0	Fed. GM210M	2,705	1.0
7mm-08 Remington	140-grain Nosler Partition Federal factory load	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,800	0.8
.308 Winchester	165-grain Nosler Partition	H380	47.5	CCI 200	2,610	1.1
.30-06 Springfield	180-grain Nosler Partition	IMR4350	54.5	Fed. 210	2,640	1.0
.375 Holland & Holland	300-grain Nosler Partition	IMR4064	68.5	Fed. 215	2,475	0.9
.30-30 Winchester	170-grain Remington Core-Lokt factory load	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,200	3.8 (iron sights)
.308 Winchester	165-grain Remington Core-Lokt	IMR4064	44.2	CCI 200	2,675	1.2
.223 Remington	52-grain Sierra MatchKing BTHP	BL-C(2)	27.5	WSR	2,990	0.75
.22-250 Remington	53-grain Sierra MatchKing FB	H380	38.2	CCI 200	3,760	0.4
.308 Winchester	168-grain Sierra MatchKing BTHP	H380	47.5	Fed. GM210M	2,715	0.7
.308 Winchester	168-grain Sierra MatchKing Federal factory load	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,660	0.8
.308 Winchester	150-grain Speer Grand Slam	Varget	45.0	CCI 200	2,760	1.1
.300 Winchester Magnum	180-grain Speer Grand Slam	Reloder 19	73.0	Fed. GM215M	2,960	0.9
.375 Ruger	285-grain Speer Grand Slam	H4350	80.0	Fed. GM215M	2650	1.2
.375 Holland & Holland	285-grain Speer Grand Slam	IMR4451	78.0	Fed. GM215M	2,575	1.0

Notes: Velocities are the averages of five shots measured on a LabRadar chronograph set to read 15 feet from the muzzle. Accuracy is the average of three five-shot groups at 25 yards. Equipment includes iron sights and a Caldwell Hydrosled shooting support. Temperature: 25 degrees (F).



EDITOR'S NOTE

This article is an excerpt from *The Illustrated History of Modern Firearms, 2nd Edition*, featuring 320 pages of full-color historical firearms info as presented by NRA Museums staff. Need a copy? Visit GunDigestStore.com and grab one for only \$34.99. Yes, that's 320 color pages of historical deep-dive gun information.

Innovations & Oddities

MODERN
FIREARMS

WILLIAM B. RUGER

Born in Brooklyn, New York, William B. Ruger developed an early interest in firearms by shooting on his high school rifle team. Studying gun books and patents, he developed a strong interest in firearms design. Just prior to World War II, Ruger took a job at the Springfield Armory, where he designed a machine gun and obtained a patent. In 1948, he and a partner, Alex Sturm, developed a .22-caliber, self-loading pistol, and began Sturm, Ruger & Company. The .22-caliber Standard semi-automatic pistol was the first firearm they produced. The success

of the design set Ruger to work developing a high-quality revolver. These products were followed by a long line of firearms, including the Blackhawk series of single-action revolvers, black-powder revolvers, police revolvers, self-loading carbines, falling block, single-shot rifles, bolt-action rifles, semi-automatic rifles and pistols, and Red Label shotguns. Today, Ruger guns are made for every interest, from plinking to big-game hunting. The genius and marketability of Ruger's designs have made Sturm, Ruger & Company an American success story.



Prototype Ruger/Savage Model 1899 Semi-Automatic Conversion
.250/3000; circa 1942

In 1942, young arms designer William Batterman Ruger visited Springfield Armory with a modified Savage Model 99 rifle in hand. Altered from a lever-action to a semi-automatic design, Ruger's new rifle prototype impressed the military, and Ruger was hired to work as a military firearms design specialist.



Sturm, Ruger & Co. Standard Model
Semi-Automatic Pistol (Serial No. 1,000,000)
.22 LR; circa 1980

William Ruger's semi-automatic pistol design was well-received in post-WWII America, and the original Red Barn, where the first pistols were built, has grown into four large manufacturing facilities where revolvers, semi-auto pistols, rifles and shotguns are made. This is the one-millionth .22 pistol produced.



William B. Ruger holds the Outstanding American Handgunner Award for 1975.



Winchester Model 70 Bolt-Action Rifle with Radio Stock
30-06; circa 1955
Someone in the marketing department decided that what the American hunter needed was a shiny, chrome-plated rifle with a built-in transistor radio so he could listen to “Rock Around the Clock” in the deer stand! It was only displayed at one trade show before the concept was abandoned.

RADIO RIFLES,
AUTOMATIC
REVOLVERS
AND BOLT-
ACTION
DOUBLE-
BARRELS

Not every firearms inno-
vation is as successful as
Ruger’s Standard Model.
Here are some of the
“also-rans,” some of
which led to new devel-
opment. Others beg the
question, “What were
they *thinking?*”



Above: In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, firearms innovators were working with new designs that utilized the energy generated by the firing of the cartridge to eject an empty case and load a new round into firing position. Originally called “auto-loaders,” today, these types of pistols, rifles and shotguns are referred to as “semi-automatics.” The concept was also applied to revolvers—albeit with less success. These two handguns used the energy of the firing cartridge to rotate the cylinder to the next chamber and cock the hammer so the shooter was ready for a successive single-action shot.
Top firearm: Webley-Fosbery Automatic Revolver; .455 centerfire; circa 1901–1924
Bottom firearm: Union Firearms Co. Auto Revolver; .32 centerfire; circa 1903–1913



Szecsei & Fuchs Double-Barrel Bolt-Action Rifle
.416 Remington Magnum; circa 1998–2002
This unique double-barrel, bolt-action rifle loads two cartridges at the same time and is the world’s only repeating double-rifle design. It has an eight-round capacity. Hungarian inventor Joseph Szecsei reportedly has said he developed his innovative design after being charged simultaneously by three elephants in 1989.



STORIED & PROTOTYPE SPORTING RIFLES

01. Standard Arms Model G Semi-Automatic Rifle; .35 Remington; circa 1910–1912. While produced for fewer than four years (1910–1914), Standard Arms' rifles were the first gas-operated long-arms produced in America and offered the capability of shifting from slide-action to semi-automatic functioning. Nearly 5,000 were made.

02. Heineman Experimental Prototype Semi-Automatic Carbine; 8mm Heineman; circa 1925. This was an experimental 1920s' semi-auto design with a sideways toggle-link action like a Luger pistol.

03. W.H.B. Smith Prototype Lever-Action Rifle; circa 1955. This rifle was intended for sale by Marlin as an inexpensive youth rifle.

04. W.H.B. Smith Prototype Semi-Automatic Rifle; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. This firearm was a demonstrator used in sales presentations.

05. W.H.B. Smith Prototype Single-Shot Shotgun; 12 gauge; circa 1955. This shotgun was fitted with interchangeable barrel assemblies.

06. Winchester Model 99 Thumb Trigger Rifle; .22 rimfire; circa 1904–1923. An unusual .22 rimfire rifle that was intended to be fired by pushing the thumb instead of pulling a trigger with a finger, Winchester's Model 99 had excellent sales abroad in Australia and; in the first three years of production (1904–1906), much of the production was exported there.

07. Darne Sliding Breech Side-by-Side Shotgun; circa 1920. Incorporating an unusual action, the French Darne shotgun was popular in humid/tropical environments because its powerful camming action was able to force moisture-swollen paper shotshells into the chambers and reliably extract them after firing.



W.H.B. SMITH

In the post-World War II era, W.H.B. Smith was a designer of firearms who incorporated expedient sintered-metal processes originally created by wartime German factories. Smith's prototypes included innovative toggle-link, break-open, and other handgun, rifle and shotgun actions that were offered to companies, including Winchester, Ithaca and Marlin, to serve as the foundation of new product lines. Smith authored the first editions of *Small Arms of the World*. The National Firearms Museum houses many of his design prototypes.

W.H.B. Smith WSP-65 Prototype Single-Shot Pistol
.44 caliber; circa 1955

Built as a test platform for .44 magnum ammunition then in production for the S&W Model 29 revolver, this pistol never made it past prototype status. It could have preceded the S&W .44 Magnum and the Ruger Blackhawk as the first .44 Magnum and might have introduced the concept of interchangeable barrels that were later popularized by Thompson/Center.



01



02



03



04



05



06



07



08



09

PROTOTYPE PISTOLS

01. W.H.B. Smith WSP-50 Prototype Single-Shot Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. A toggle-activated single-shot.

02. Smith Prototype WSP-90 Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. A locked-cam single-shot.

03. W.H.B. Smith Prototype Straight-Pull Semi-Automatic Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. A straight-pull semi-automatic.

04. Smith Prototype WSP-70 Single-Shot Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. A break-open pistol.

05. W.H.B. Smith Prototype WSP-75 Single-Shot Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. This model featured an unfinished alloy frame.

06. W.H.B. Smith Prototype WSP-200A Single-Shot Pistol; .38 Special; circa 1955. A break-open design made on alloy frame to test durability.

07. W.H.B. Smith Prototype WSP-20 Semi-Automatic Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. Sintered metal technology was used to create the receiver for this pistol.

08. W.H.B. Smith Prototype WSP-10 Single-Shot Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. A manual-cocking single-shot.

09. W.H.B. Smith WSP-40 Second Model Prototype Semi-Automatic Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. This is an unfinished toolroom sample.



01. Savage Albree Prototype Model 7 Semi-Automatic Rifle with Scope; .22 rimfire; circa 1939. An experimental slam-fire design.

02. Experimental/Prototype Mauser Semi-Automatic Pistol Carbine; 7.63 Mauser; circa 1900. Combining the semi-automatic action of the Mauser M1896 pistol with a well-balanced carbine profile, this rifle never saw commercial production.

03. Loosemore Prototype Open Bolt Rifle; .22 rimfire; circa 1988–1990. This is a firing sample made for corporate presentations.

04. Daisy-Heddon V/L Single-Shot Caseless Cartridge Rifle; .22 V/L; circa 1968–1969. Daisy's V/L system combined airgun and caseless ammunition technology. Designed to ignite a propellant charge molded on the base of the projectile by compression, the Daisy was a hybrid airgun/firearm that met with little market acceptance.

05. Armalite Golden Gun Semi-Automatic Shotgun; circa 1964–1965. The glowing, golden anodizing of the aluminum barrel and receiver gave the Golden Gun its name. Armalite produced only 2,000 examples of its AR-17 semi-automatic shotgun, which featured innovative, ultra-lightweight construction and a plastic stock that were ahead of their time.

06. Winchester Model 52C Bolt-Action Rifle; .22 long rifle; circa 1955. This is a toolroom prototype.

07. Loosemore Destroyer Semi-Automatic Pistol/Carbine Prototype; .30 Carbine; circa 1988–1990. A handmade pistol blending Thompson and M1 carbine features.

08. Sommer & Ockenfuss GmbH German Marksman Tactical Rifle with Schmidt & Bender 3-12 x 50 Variable Scope; .308 Winchester; circa 2001. An unusually compact countersniper rifle, the Sommer & Ockenfuss utilizes a pump-action mechanism as part of its bullpup configuration.

MODERN FIREARMS

Since World War II, more types of firearms are available to the American public than ever before. In rifles, the AR pattern is, by far, the most popular, with more than 16 million AR- and AK-platform rifles produced or imported between 1990 and 2016. However, bolt-, lever- and single-shots still have adherents. In handguns, semi-autos have become prevalent, with revolvers still popular. The use of new materials, such as polymer, stainless steel, titanium and lightweight alloys, serve a market in ultra-light, concealed-carry handguns. Semi-auto and pump shotguns prevail, with classic doubles still popular for some sporting uses. A wide variety of optical and electronic sights have gained extensive popularity for all types of firearms.



Dardick Series 1500 Pistol (Double-Action, Magazine-Fed Revolver)

.38 Dardick Tround; circa 1958–1960

Dardick pistols could be converted to carbine configuration by replacing the pistol barrel with a long barrel-and-stock assembly.



MB Associates Gyrojet Mk I Model B 007 Semi-Automatic Carbine

13mm Gyrojet; circa 1966–1967

This carbine was made for a *James Bond* movie with SN 007.

MB Associates Gyrojet Semi-Automatic Carbine; 13mm Gyrojet; circa 1966–1967. With scope.



MB Associates Gyrojet Mark I Pistol 13mm Gyrojet; circa 1966–1967

This pistol was also manufactured in 12mm due to concerns that the 13mm chambering might run afoul of regulations restricting caliber of handguns.



Colt Prototype Pistols

Top right: Colt Experimental Prototype Target Pistol; .22 LR; circa unknown; s/n X24694. The factory describes this pistol as an “exotic, advanced, experimental and prototype design concept.”

Middle right: Colt Experimental Match Target Pistol; .22 LR; circa unknown; s/n GX4524. The top rib extends back over the slide, which is machined so that the rear of slide surrounds steel that’s integral with the frame.

Bottom right: Colt Woodsman Experimental Prototype Pistol; .22 LR; circa pre-1978; s/n GX-704.



Left: Miniature Martial Flintlock Pistol; #10 shot; circa 1986. Once considered a test of a journeyman gunsmith’s skills, modern miniature arms are a specialized collector field with fully functional muzzleloading pistols—such as this diminutive martial single-shot pistol—offering intriguing shooting opportunities. This one is shown at approximate actual size (placed next to a dime for scale).



Right: Gyrojet rockets (left) and Dardick trounds. The rockets were made with two, three or four angled ports in the base. These are shown at approximate actual size.



WEIRD AMMO FOR WEIRD GUNS

Dardick. In 1950, the U.S. military was looking at alternative feeding devices for firearms and found that a triangular-cased cartridge used less room in a magazine than a cylindrical one. The military didn’t use it ... but David Dardick did. He also decided to use a plastic called “Celanese Fortiflex” to replace the expensive brass casing. The triangular cartridge had a lead .38 bullet in it. His revolver cylinder had three open, pie-shaped chambers and an 11- or 15-round magazine to feed it, resulting in a magazine-fed revolver. The ammo was nicknamed “trounds” for “triangular rounds.”

Gyro Jet. The 1950s and ’60s comprised the age of rocketry. Everything was going to be rocket powered — cars, planes, trains and even firearms. In 1963, MBA Inc. started producing rocket-firing pistols for the public called “Gyro Jets.” The solid-nose, 13mm rocket round has a cylinder of solid rocket fuel in its hollow base and is ignited by a standard pistol primer. The barrels were smooth-bore. Instead of having rifling in the barrel, the rocket nozzle on the base of each round was angled to make the rocket spin in flight and stabilize it. The rockets left the muzzle at 350 fps and accelerated to 1,250 fps. Because there was no empty case to eject, functioning was simplified. The hammer drove the projectile rearward against a fixed firing pin in the breech-face. As the projectile moved forward, it rode over the hammer, forcing it back down into the “cocked” position, allowing the next round to be raised into position by the spring-fed magazine follower.



01. Bridgeport Firearms Co. Prototype P66 Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1966. A semi-auto design made to compete with Colt/Ruger handguns. Production ceased after a Ruger lawsuit.

02. Dornaus and Dixon Bren Ten Semi-Automatic Pistol; 10mm; circa 1983. The first tactical semi-automatic pistol chambered for the 10mm cartridge, Dornaus & Dixon's Bren Ten failed as a commercial success due to a lack of magazines available as these handguns were completed by the manufacturer.

03. Mikkenger Arms Grizzly Single-Action Revolver; .44 Magnum; circa 1976–1977. This was the only American single-action revolver design that didn't use frame screws.

04. Danish Rifle Syndicate Schouboe Semi-Automatic Pistol; 11.35mm Schouboe; circa 1907. Firing a lightweight, wooden-cored bullet, the Schouboe was tested in U.S. Army trials in 1907.

05. Semi-Automatic Pistol; 9mm Parabellum; circa 1972. Fewer than 50 of the Stainless Steel Pistol (SSP) prototypes were manufactured by Colt after solicitation from the U.S. military to develop a double-action 9mm replacement for the Model 1911A1 pistol.

06. Colt Prototype WSP-60 Semi-Automatic Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. This was an alternative pistol design for the Colt Woodsman II.

07. Colt WSP-40 Prototype Semi-Automatic Pistol; .22 rimfire; circa 1955. A variant of the Woodsman II design that had interchangeable barrels.

08. Revolver (non-firing model); .44 Magnum; circa 1993. A non-firing epoxy model built by ... an Iron Curtain skating rink engineer with no firearms experience!

SEMMERLING LM-4 AND LM-3 PISTOLS

Near right: Semmerling LM-4 pistol; .45 ACP; circa 1978–1982. Fewer than 600 Semmerling LM-4 ultra-compact pistols were built for deep-concealment applications. This smaller example was designed as a manually operated repeater. The slide required a forward push and a backward pull to eject the spent case and reload from the magazine. A long, striker-cocking trigger pull was also part of the safety mechanism for this pistol.

Far right: Semmerling LM-3. This larger version was designed as the ultimate in .45-caliber backup handguns and was a double-action-only semi-automatic. This example bears serial number 001.



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Jun 27-28 KY, Lexington. Kenny Woods Gun Shows. Lexington Horse Park, 4089 Iron Works Parkway. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults: \$10, VIP: \$12.50, no line, no wait Kids: \$4, VIP: \$6.50, no line, no wait VIP Tickets can be purchased online. F: . PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jun 27-28 LA, Lafayette. Gun & Knife Show. District Event Center, 4607 Johnston St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8. Classic Arms Productions. PO Box 654, Mandeville, LA 70470. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Jun 27-28 MI, Brownstone Charter Twnshp. Gun & Knife Show. Brownstone Sports Center, 20192 Telegraph Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. A: \$6. T: 350. F: \$55. Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Jun 27-28 MO, Springfield. RK Prepper Show. Ozark Empire Fairgrounds, 3100 N. Grant St. Exit 77 off I-44. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up): \$12, VIP: \$14.50, no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12): \$4, VIP: \$6.50, no line, no wait. T: 1000. RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jun 27-28 PA, Monroeville. The Pittsburgh Gun Show. Monroeville Convention Center, 209 Mall Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$11. T: 600. F: \$55. Showmasters, Inc. . 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH: 540-951-1344. www.showmastersgunshows.com.

Jun 27-28 TN, Knoxville. RK Shows. Knoxville Expo Center, 5441 Clinton Hwy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up): \$12, VIP: \$14.50, no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12): \$5, VIP: \$7.50, no line, no wait. T: 500. RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jun 27-28 TX, Ft. Worth. Premier Gun Shows. Amon Carter Exhibit Hall, Will Rogers Ctr. , 3401 Burnett Tandy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10 cash only. T: 1200. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Jun 27-28 TX, Midland. Midland Gun & Blade Show. Horseshoe Pavilion, 2514 Arena Trail. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. A: Adults \$7. Kids under 12 FREE. ALL Law Enforcement free w/badge. *All First Responders \$2 off with badge/ID.. T: 500. F: \$60. Silver Spur Trade Shows. PO Box 208, Ralls, TX 79357. PH: 806-253-1322. www.midlandgunshow.com.

Jun 27-28 TX, Nacogdoches. Gun Show. Civic Center, 3805 NW Stallings Drive. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$8. T: 200. F: 1-4 \$55; 5+ \$50; 10+ \$45. G&S Promotions. PO Box 338, Wister, OK 74966. PH: 918-659-2201. www.gands-gunshows.com.

Jun 27-28 VA, Lynchburg. Lynchburg Gun Show . Old Macy's Building , River Ridge Mall, 3405 Candler's Mountain Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. A: \$11 Adults, Kids under 12 are FREE with supervising adult. T: 500. F: \$65 per table. 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH: 540-951-1344. www.showmastersgunshows.com.

JULY

Jul 3-5 MI, Lansing. Gun & Knife Show - 3 Days. Ingham Cty. Fairgrounds, 700 E Ash St, US 127 to Kipp Rd. E. SH: Fri. 2pm-7pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. A: \$6. T: 440. F: \$55. Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Jul 3-5 MO, St. Louis. RK Shows. Orlando Gardens, 4300 Hoffmeister Ave. SH: Fri. 4pm-8pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: Adults: \$12, VIP: \$14.50, no line, no wait Kids: \$4, VIP: \$6.50, no line, no wait VIP Tickets can be purchased online. F: . PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 4-5 IN, Indianapolis. Gun Show. Stout Field National Guard Armory, 3912 W. Minnesota St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5. F: \$40. Central Indiana Gunshows, LLC. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Jul 4-5 TN, Chattanooga. RK Shows. Camp Jordan Arena, 323 Camp Jordan Parkway. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$10. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 4-5 TX, San Antonio. Gun Show. San Antonio Events Center, 8111 Meadow Leaf. SH: Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. F: \$80. Saxet Gun Shows. PO Box 5677, Corpus Christi, TX 78465. PH: 361-289-2256. www.saxetshows.com.

Jul 11-12 AR, Mountain Home. Gun Show. Baxter Cty. Fairgrounds, 1507 Fairgrounds Dr. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$7. T: 150. F: 1-4 \$45, 5+ \$40, 10+ \$35. G&S Promotions. PO Box 338, Wister, OK 74966. PH: 918-659-2201. www.gands-gunshows.com.

Jul 11-12 IN, Crown Point. Gun Show. Lake Cty. Fairgrounds, 889 S. Court St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5., under 12 free w/adult. F: \$45. Central Indiana Gun Shows. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Jul 11-12 KS, Wichita. US Weapon Collectors. Century II, 225 W Douglas Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$12. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 11-12 MI, Cadillac. Gun & Knife Show. Wexford County Fairgrounds, US 131 & 13th St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. T: 250. F: \$45. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Jul 11-12 MS, Jackson. Gun & Knife Show. MS Trade Mart Bldg., High St., Exit off I-55. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. T: 500. F: \$80. Great Southern Gun & Knife Shows. PO Box 24416, Knoxville, TN 37933. PH: 865-671-4757. www.great-southernngunshow.com.

Jul 11-12 NC, Fletcher. Gun & Knife Show. WNC Ag Ctr., 1301 Fanning Bridge Rd., I-26, Exit 40. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8.. MK Shows. P.O. Box 685, Monroe, ga 30655. PH: 770-630-7296. www.MKShows.com.

Jul 11-12 OH, Cleveland-Berea. Gun Show. Cuyahoga Cty. Fairgrounds, I-71 to Bagley Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7. F: \$55. Ohio Shows. PO Box 491, Vienna, OH 44473. PH: 330-539-4247. www.ohiogunshows.com.

Jul 11-12 OH, Mansfield. Mansfield Gun Show, July 11-12. Richland County Fairgrounds, 750 N. Home Road. SH: Sat. 9am-4pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$6.00 12 and under free free admission if you join or renew NRA at this show. T: 200. F: \$40 (discount for 5 or more). Heritage Arms, LLC. PO Box 93, Bolivar, OH 44612. PH: 330-806-0747. www.heritagegunshowsohio.com.

Jul 11-12 TN, Jackson . RK Shows. Jackson Fairgrounds Park, 45 Bypass South. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: Adults: \$10, VIP: \$12.50, no line, no wait Kids: \$4, VIP: \$6.50, no line, no wait VIP Tickets can be purchased online. F: . PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 11-12 TX, Kerrville. Gun & Knife Show. Event Center , 3785 TX-27. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. Texas Gun & Knife Association. 126 Cedar Knoll, Kerrville, TX 78028. PH: 830-285-0575. www.texasgunandknifeshows.com.

Jul 11-12 TX, Dripping Springs. Premier Gun Shows. Dripping Springs Ranch Park, 1042 Event Center Dr. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8 cash only. T: 200. F: \$75. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Jul 11-12 TX, Ft. Worth. Gun & Knife Show. Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3401 W Lancaster Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$9. T: 800. F: \$80 per table if prepaid, \$85 otherwise. Lone Star Gun Shows. 2405 Interstate 30 Ste B, Mesquite, TX 75150. PH: 214-635-2009. www.lonestargunshows.com.

Jul 11-12 VA, Richmond. Richmond Gun Show. Richmond Raceway Complex, 600 E Laburnum Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. A: \$12, Children 12-17 - \$6, Children under 12 - Free. T: 800. F: \$80 Electric \$35. Showmasters, Inc. . 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH: 540-951-1344. www.showmastersgunshows.com.

Jul 18-19 AL, Hoover. Summer Gun Show. Hoover Met Complex, 100 Ben Chapman Drive. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. F: Member: Trade \$60, Display \$30; Non Member: Trade \$85, Display \$40. The Alabama Gun Collectors Association. PO Box 128, Clay, AL 35048. PH: 205-317-0948. www.algca.org.

Jul 18-19 GA, Columbus. Gun Shows of the South. Ironworks Conv. Ctr., 801 Front Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. Gun Shows of the South. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 18-19 KS, Topeka. US Weapon Collectors. Kansas Expo Center, 19 Topeka Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. F: . RK Shows . PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 18-19 LA, Kenner. Gun & Knife Show. Pontchartrain Ctr., New Orleans Area, Williams Blvd. Exit off I-10. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. T: 400. F: \$85. PO Box 24416, Knoxville, TN 37933. PH: 865-671-4757. www.greatsouthernngunshow.com.

Jul 18-19 MI, Novi. Gun & Knife Show. Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. A: \$6. T: 900. F: \$55. Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Jul 18-19 OK, Elk City. Gun Show. Civic Center, 1016 Airport Industrial Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$7. T: 150. F: 1-4 \$40; 5+ \$35; 10+ \$30. G&S Promotions. PO Box 338, Wister, OK 74966. PH: 918-659-2201. www.gandsgunshows.com.

Jul 18-19 TN, Knoxville. Knoxville TN : Smoky Mountain Gun Collectors Association Gun Show. Kerbel Shrine Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$8.00 each day. T: 120. F: \$50.00. Smoky Mountain Gun Collectors Association, Inc. . P.O.Box 9251, Knoxville, TN 37940. PH: 865-333-4970. www.smokymountainguncollectorassociation.org.

Jul 18-19 TX, Allen. Premier Gun Show. Allen Event Center, 200 E. Stacy Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10. F: . Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Jul 18-19 TX, Amarillo. Gun & Knife Show. Civic Center, 401 Buchanan St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. Texas Gun & Knife Association. 126 Cedar Knoll, Kerrville, TX 78028. PH: 830-285-0575. www.texasgunandknifeshows.com.

Jul 18-19 TX, Longview. Longview Gun Show. Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Jul 18-19 VA, Hampton. Gun Show. Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Dr. off Mercury Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10. T: 700. Southeastern Guns & Knives, Ltd.. PO Box 6601, Portsmouth, VA 23703. PH: 757-483-5383. www.sgkshows.com.

Jul 18-19 WV, Morgantown. The Morgantown Gun Show. Mylan Park Expo Center, Ruby Community Center, 500 Mylan Park Lane. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$8. T: 300. F: \$45. Showmasters, Inc. . 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH: 540-951-1344. www.showmastersgunshows.com.

Jul 24-26 VA, Chantilly. The Nation's Gun Show. Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center. SH: Fri. 3pm-8pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. A: Friday - \$13 Saturday/Sunday \$16/day; \$22/3-day pass children 12-17 - \$8 children under 12 - Free with Supervising Adult. T: 1300. F: \$115 aisle/\$120 wall Electric \$95, Phone \$195, Wifi: FREE. Showmasters Gun

Shows. 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH: 540-951-1344. www.thenationsgunshow.com.

Jul 25-26 IN, Greenfield. Gun & Knife Show. Hancock Cty. Fairgrounds, 620 N. Apple St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5. F: \$35. Central Indiana Gun Shows. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Jul 25-26 KY, Somerset. Kenny Woods Gun Shows. The Center, 2292 US HWY 27. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults: \$9, VIP: \$11.50 , no line, no wait Kids: \$4, VIP: \$6.50 , no line, no wait VIP Tickets can be purchased online. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 25-26 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$9. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Jul 25-26 MO, Kansas City. M.V.A.C.A. 50th Annual National Summer Arms Show. KCI EXPO Center, 11730 N. Ambassador. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: Day Pass \$10, Weekend Pass \$15 Children under 15: Free with Adult. T: 780. F: \$110 Sales Table / \$25 Display Table. Missouri Valley Arms Collectors Association. PO Box 6013, Leawood, KS 66206. PH: 816-559-7469. www.mvaca.org.

Jul 25-26 MS, Hattiesburg. Gun & Knife Show. Forrest County Multi-Purpose Center, 962 Sullivan Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. T: 300. F: \$70. Great Southern Gun & Knife Shows. PO Box 24416, Knoxville, TN 37933. PH: 865-671-4757. www.greatsouthernngunshow.com.

Jul 25-26 OK, Shawnee. Gun Show. Expo Center, 1700 West Independence. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$8. T: 200. F: 1-4 \$45; 5+ \$40; 10+ \$35. G&S Promotions. PO Box 338, Wister, OK 74966. PH: 918-659-2201. www.gandsgunshows.com.

Jul 25-26 OK, Tulsa. RK Shows. Expo Square , 4145 E 21st St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults: \$14, Advanced Tickets: \$8 (Ends on the Wednesday prior to the show) Children(12 & Under): \$4, Advanced Tickets: \$2 (Ends on the Wednesday prior to the show)All Access Pass(Online Only): \$25, grants you access from: Friday: NOON , 7 PM during d. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 25-26 TN, Memphis. RK Shows. Al Chymia Shriners Building, 5770 Shelby Oaks Drive. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up) \$12, VIP: \$14.50 , no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12) \$4, VIP: \$6.50 , no line, no wait. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Jul 25-26 TX, Mesquite. Premier Gun Shows. Big Town Event Ctr., 2323 Big Town Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8 cash only. T: 700. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Jul 26 WI, Manitowish Waters. Manitowish Waters Gun Show. Manitowish Waters Community Center, Hwy 51, Airport Road. SH: Sun. 8am-3pm. A: \$5; Under 12 free.. F: \$15 for 6 foot table. Northwoods Wildlife & Wetlands Club. po box 219, Mercer, WI 54547. PH: 715-476-0016.

AUGUST

Aug 1-2 GA, Cartersville. Gun Shows of the South. Clarence Brown Conference Center, 5450 GA-20. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: Adults: \$10, VIP: \$12.50 , no line, no wait Kids: \$4, VIP: \$6.50 , no line, no wait VIP Tickets can be purchased online. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 1-2 IN, Kokomo. Gun & Knife Show. Kokomo Event Center, 1500 N Reed Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5. F: \$35. Central Indiana Gun Shows. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Aug 1-2 LA, West Monroe. West Monroe Gun Show. West Monroe Convention Center, 901 Ridge Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-

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JULY 11-12 • KERRVILLE EVENT CENTER

JULY 18-19 • AMARILLO CIVIC CENTER

AUGUST 15-16 • ABILENE CONVENTION CENTER

SEPT. 12-13 • KERRVILLE EVENT CENTER

OCT. 17-18 • ABILENE CONVENTION CENTER

OCT. 24-25 • FREDERICKSBURG FAIR GROUNDS

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4pm. A: \$8. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Aug 1-2 MI, Grand Rapids. Gun & Knife Show. 4 Mile Rd Showplace, 1025 Four Mile Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. T: 450. F: \$55. Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Aug 1-2 OK, Oklahoma City. RK Shows. Oklahoma State Fair Park, 3001 General Pershing Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults: \$14 Children: \$5. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 1-2 TN, Crossville. Cumberland County Gun & Knife Show. Cumberland County Community Complex, 1398 Livingdton ROad. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: August 1st admission is \$5.00, (Youth, under 12, FREE admission) includes show and Confiscated weapon auction at 5:00pm August 2nd admission is FREE for all attendees. T: 200. F: 6' table - \$ 40 if paid by 5/31, \$45 if paid by 6/30, \$50 if paid after 6/30 Multiple table discounts also available.. Cumberland County, TN. 1398 Livingdston Road, Crossville, TN 38571. PH: 931-484-5028. www.gkshow.org.

Aug 1-2 TN, Lebanon. Gun Show. Wilson County Exposition Center, 945 East Baddour Parkway. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$10. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 1-2 TX, Pasadena. Premier Gun Shows. Convention Ctr., 7902 Fairmont Pkwy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8 cash only. T: 300. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Aug 1-2 TX, San Antonio. Gun Show. San Antonio Events Center, 8111 Meadow Leaf. SH: Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. F: \$80. Saxet Gun Shows. PO Box 5677, Corpus Christi, TX 78465. PH: 361-289-2256. www.saxetshows.com.

Aug 8-9 CO, CO Springs. Gun Shows of the Rockies. CO Springs Event Center, 3960 Palmer Park Boulevard. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 8-9 IN, Muncie. Gun & Knife Show. Delaware Co. Fairgrounds, 1210 N Wheeling Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5. F: \$35. Central Indiana Gun Shows. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Aug 8-9 LA, Bossier City. Bossier Gun Show. Bossier City Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Aug 8-9 MI, Birch Run. Gun & Knife Show. Frankenmuth Credit Union Event Center, Exit 136 off I-75. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. T: 700. F: \$55. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Aug 8-9 MS, Jackson. Gun & Knife Show. MS Trade Mart Bldg., High St., Exit off I-55. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. T: 500. F: \$80. Great Southern Gun & Knife Shows. PO Box 24416, Knoxville, TN 37933. PH: 865-671-4757. www.great-southern-gunshow.com.

Aug 8-9 TN, Kingsport. RK Shows. MeadowView Convention Center, 1901 Meadowview Pkwy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults: \$10, VIP: \$12.50, no line, no

wait Kids: \$4, VIP: \$6.50, no line, no wait VIP Tickets can be purchased online. F: . PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 8-9 TX, Robstown. Gun Show. Richard M Borchard Regional Fairgrounds, 1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. F: \$80/ electricity \$45. Saxet Gun Shows. PO Box 5677, Corpus Christi, TX 78465. PH: 361-289-2256. www.saxetshows.com.

Aug 15-16 AR, Conway. Gun Show. Expo Center, 2505 East Oak St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$10. T: 400. F: 1-4 \$55; 5+ \$50; 10+ \$45. G&S Promotions. PO Box 338, Wister, OK 74966. PH: 918-659-2201. www.gandsgunshows.com.

Aug 15-16 LA, Lafayette. Lafayette Gun Show. District Event Center, 4607 Johnston St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8. F: . 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Aug 15-16 MO, Springfield. RK Shows. Ozark Empire Fairgrounds, 3100 N. Grant St. Exit 77 off I-44. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up): \$12, VIP: \$14.50, no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12): \$4, VIP: \$6.50, no line, no wait. T: 1000. RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 15-16 PA, Lewis Run. Lewis Run Gun Show. Lewis Run Volunteer Fire Department, 48 Main Street. SH: Sat. 9am-4pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: 5 adult. T: 75. F: 25. 29 Stephen Lane, Bradford, PA 16701. PH: 814-598-5841.

Aug 15-16 TN, Knoxville. RK Shows. Knoxville Expo Center, 5441 Clinton Hwy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up) \$12, VIP: \$14.50, no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12) \$5, VIP: \$7.50, no

line, no wait. T: 500. RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 15-16 TX, Abilene. Gun & Knife Show. Convention Center, 1100 N. 6th St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. Texas Gun & Knife Association. 126 Cedar Knoll, Kerrville, TX 78028. PH: 830-285-0575. www.texasgunandknifeshows.com.

Aug 15-16 TX, Mesquite. Premier Gun Shows. Big Town Event Ctr., 2323 Big Town BLvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8 cash only. T: 700. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Aug 15-16 TX, New Braunfels. Premier Gun Shows. New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center, 375 S Castell Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8 cash only. T: 300. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

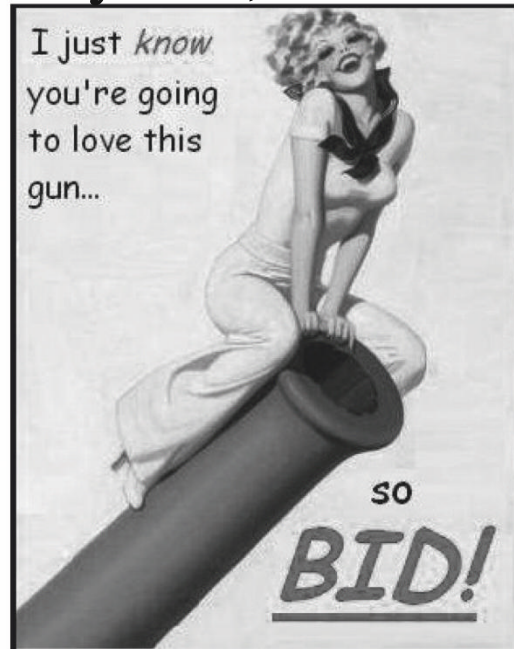


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www.gunrunnerauctions.com

Aug 15-16 TX, McAllen. Gun Show. McAllen Convention Center, 700 Convention Center Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. F: \$80/ electricity \$65. Saxet Gun Shows. PO Box 5677, Corpus Christi, TX 78465. PH: 361-289-2256. www.saxetshows.com.

Aug 15-16 TX, Tyler. Gun & Knife Show. Harvey Hall Convention Center, 2000 W. Front St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8. T: 350. F: \$70 per table if prepaid, \$75 otherwise. Lone Star Gun Shows. 2405 Interstate 30 Ste B, Mesquite, TX 75150. PH: 214-635-2009. www.lonestargunshows.com.

Aug 15-16 VA, Roanoke. Roanoke Valley Gun Show. The Berglund Center, 710 Williamson Rd NE. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. A: \$11. T: 500. F: \$65. Showmasters, Inc. . 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH: 540-951-1344. www.showmastersgunshows.com.

Aug 22-23 IN, Evansville. Gun & Knife Show. 4-H Center, Vanderburg Cty. Fairgrounds, 201 E. Boonville New Harmony Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. F: . PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Aug 22-23 MI, Monroe. Gun & Knife Show. Cty. Fairgrounds, MBT Expo Ctr., 3775 S. Custer Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. A: \$6. T: 400. F: \$50. Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Aug 22-23 MO, Kansas City. RK Shows. KCI Expo Ctr., 11730 N. Ambassador Dr. SH: Sat. 8am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up) \$12, VIP \$14.50 , no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12) \$4, VIP \$6.50 , no line, no wait. T: 1000. RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 22-23 MS, Southaven. RK Shows. Landers Center, 560 Venture Dr. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 22-23 ND, Bismarck. Bismarck Gun Show. Bismarck Civic Center, 315 South 5th St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5/day. T: 325. F: \$35. Dakota Territory Gun Collectors Association. PO Box 158, Strasburg, ND 58573. PH: 701-336-7533. www.dtgca.org.

Aug 22-23 PA, Monroeville. The Pittsburgh Gun Show. Monroeville Convention Center, 209 Mall Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$11. T: 600. F: \$55. Showmasters, Inc. . 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH: 540-951-1344. www.showmastersgunshows.com.

Aug 22-23 TX, Ft. Worth. Premier Gun Shows. Amon Carter Exhibit Hall, Will Rogers Ctr. , 3401 Burnett Tandy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10 cash only. T: 1200. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Aug 22-23 TX, Belton. Gun & Knife Show. Bell County Expo Center, 301 W Loop 121. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$7. T: 200. F: \$70 per table if paid in advance, \$75 otherwise. Lone Star Gun Shows. 2405 Interstate 30 Ste B, Mesquite, TX 75150. PH: 214-635-2009. www.lonestargunshows.com.

Aug 22-23 VA, Richmond. Richmond Gun Show. Richmond Raceway Complex, 600 E Laburnum Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-5pm. A: \$12, Children 12-17 - \$6, Children under 12 - Free. T: 800. F: \$80 Electric \$35. Showmasters, Inc. . 4225 Fortress Dr, Blacksburg, VA 24060. PH:

540-951-1344. www.showmastersgunshows.com.

Aug 28-30 IN, Indianapolis. Indy 1500 Gun & Knife Show. Indiana State Fairgrounds, 1202 E. 38th St. SH: Fri. 2pm-7pm, Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. F: \$110. PO Box 14194, Oklahoma City, OK 73113. PH: 405-340-1333. www.indy1500.com.

Aug 29-30 GA, Lawrenceville. RK Prepper Shows. Gwinett Co Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugar Loaf Parkway. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 29-30 IN, Bloomington. Gun & Knife Show. Monroe County Fairgrounds, 5700 W Airport Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5. F: \$35. Central Indiana Gun Shows. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Aug 29-30 MI, Jackson. Gun & Knife Show. ORS Fieldhouse, 3055 Shirley Dr. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. A: \$6. T: 350. F: . Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Aug 29-30 MO, St Charles. RK Shows. St Charles Convention Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Aug 29-30 TX, Dallas. Premier Gun Shows. Dallas Market Hall, 2200 N Stemmons Fwy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10 cash only. T: 1400. Premier Gun Shows. PO Box 34224, Fort Worth, TX 76162. PH: 817-732-1194. www.premiergunshows.com.

Aug 29-30 TX, Nacogdoches. Gun Show. Civic Center, 3805 NW Stallings Drive. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$8. T: 200. F: 1-4 \$55; 5+ \$50; 10+ \$45. G&S Promotions. PO Box 338, Wister, OK 74966. PH: 918-659-2201. www.gands-gunshows.com.

Aug 29-30 VA, Woodstock. Sporting Shows Unlimited Gun, Knife and Outdoor Show. Woodstock Moose Lodge, 152 Moose Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$7 per person Children under 12 are FREE. T: 140. F: \$60. Sporting Shows Unlimited (formerly VA Gun & Knife Shows, LLC). 7498 Keith Road, Warrenton, VA 20186. PH: 703-717-1608. www.sporting-showsunlimited.com.

SEPTEMBER

Sep 5-6 IN, Indianapolis. Gun Show. Stout Field National Guard Armory, 3912 W. Minnesota St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5. F: \$40. Central Indiana Gunshows, LLC. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Sep 5-6 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$9. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Sep 5-6 MI, Harrison. Gun & Knife Show. Clare Cty. Fairgrounds, 418 Fairlane, Bus 127 N, W on Fairlane. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. A: \$6. T: 275. F: \$45. Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Sep 5-6 TN, Chattanooga. RK Shows. Camp Jordan Arena, 323 Camp Jordan Parkway. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$10. F: . RK Shows. PO Box 334,

Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Sep 5-6 TN, Kingsport. Jericho Shriners Gun Shows. Jericho Shriners, 1100 Jericho Drive. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8. F: \$40 per table until Aug 21, \$50 per table after - Set up Sept. 11th after 10am. 1100 Jericho drive, Kingsport, TN 37663. PH: 423-484-9650. <http://jerichoshrine.com/gunshow.html>.

Sep 5-6 TX, San Antonio. Gun Show. San Antonio Events Center, 8111 Meadow Leaf. SH: Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. F: \$80. Saxet Gun Shows. PO Box 5677, Corpus Christi, TX 78465. PH: 361-289-2256. www.saxetshows.com.

Sep 11 ND, West Fargo. Red River Range Gun Show. Red River Regional Marksmanship Center, 640 16th St NE. SH: Fri. 4pm-8pm. A: General: \$5.00 Children 11 & under: Free (with Adult). T: 98. F: \$30. Red River Regional Marksmanship Center. 640 16th St NE, West Fargo, ND 58078. PH: 701-356-0677.

Sep 12-13 CA, McClellan Park. McClellan Gun Show (Sacramento). McClellan Conference Center, 5411 Luce Avenue. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$10 / Under 18 Free w/Parent / FREE PARKING. T: 200. F: Single Table \$125 / 2 or More \$100 ea. / 5 or More \$90 ea.. California Gun Shows LLC. P.O. Box 729, Woodbridge, CA 95258. PH: 209-215-5599. <http://www.mountainairepromotions.com/sacramentogunshow.html>.

Sep 12-13 IN, Crown Point. Gun Show. Lake Cty. Fairgrounds, 889 S. Court St. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5., under 12 free w/adult. F: \$45. Central Indiana Gun Shows. PO Box 32, Centerville, IN 47330. PH: 765-993-8942. www.centralindianagunshows.com.

Sep 12-13 MI, Grand Rapids. Gun & Knife Show. 4 Mile Rd Showplace, 1025 Four Mile Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. T: 450. F: \$55. Sport Show Promotions. PO Box 404, Mason, MI 48854. PH: 517-676-4160. www.migunshows.com.

Sep 12-13 MO, Independence. RK Shows. Silverstein Eye Centers Arena, 19100 E Valley View Pkwy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up) \$12, VIP: \$14.50 , no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12) \$4, VIP: \$6.50 , no line, no wait. T: 300. RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

Sep 12-13 NY, Hamburg. Niagara Frontier Gun Shows. Hamburg Fairgrounds Event Building, 5820 South Park Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-4pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7 at the door. T: 425. F: \$50. NFG Shows. 83 eckerson, akron, NY 14001. PH: 716-542-9928. www.nfgshows.com.

Sep 12-13 OH, Medina. Gun Show. Community Ctr., Co. Fairgrounds (SR 42) 735 Lafayette Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7., under 12 free. T: 450. F: \$55. Conrad & Dowdell Productions. 9047 Kennard Rd., Lodi, OH 44254. PH: 330-948-4400. www.conraddowdell.com.

Sep 12-13 SC, Ladson. Gun & Knife Show. Exchange Park Fairgrounds, 9850 Hwy 78. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8.. MK Shows . P.O. Box 685, Monroe, ga 30655. PH: 770-630-7296. www.MKShows.com.

Sep 12-13 TN, Knoxville. RK Shows. Knoxville Expo Center, 5441 Clinton Hwy. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Adults(Ages 13 & up) \$12, VIP: \$14.50 , no line, no wait Children(Ages 6-12) \$5, VIP: \$7.50 , no line, no wait. T: 500. RK Shows. PO Box 334, Manchester, IA 52057. PH: 563-927-8176. www.rkshows.com.

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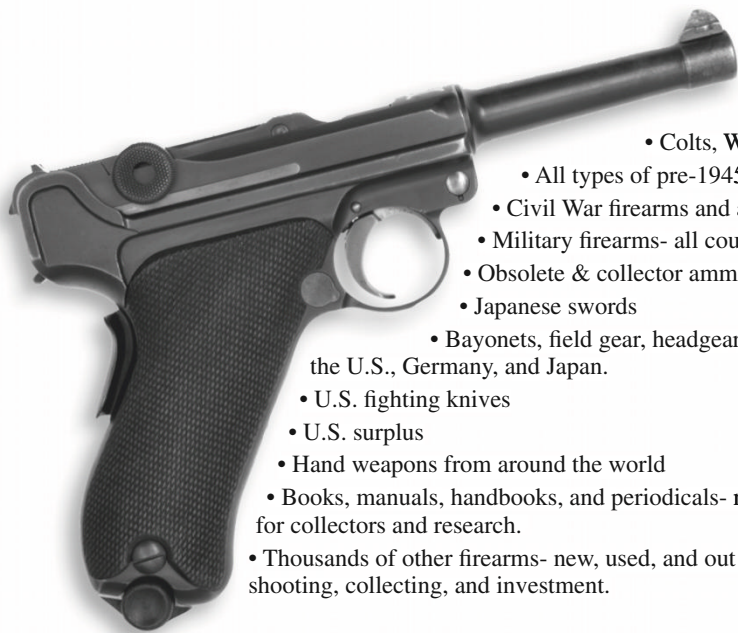
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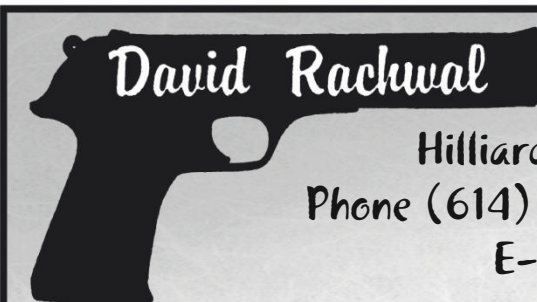
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- 9-G Colt .25 Cal. "Model 1908 Hammerless Vest Pocket" Auto Pistol** 2" barrel with fair pitted bore, 90% original blue, loss of blue on right side of slide, some pin pricking and edge wear, right side of slide turning to gray, high edge wear, backstrap safety turning to gray, some small areas of fire blue still on safety and trigger, factory groove top slide sight, 2 tone factory magazine, manufactured 1910 (C&R)\$295
- 10-G Colt .45 ACP "Series 70 Combat Commander" Nickel Finish Auto Pistol** 4 1/4" barrel with mint bore, satin nickel lower and bright nickel upper, "Millett" white outline combat sights front and rear, extended ambidextrous safety, full beavertail grip safety, mint wrap around checkered black rubber grips with gold Colt medallions, stainless magazine, excellent function, made in 1972\$885
- 11-G Colt .45 ACP Model 1911 WW-I "Chateau Thierry" Commemorative Cased Auto Pistol** 5" barrel with mint bore, 99 1/2% original gloss blue with gold filled commemorative slide markings, mint original checkered Walnut grips with large diamonds around screws and inlaid medallions, as new in original display case which shows a little display wear damage on sides, made in 1967 (C&R)\$1195
- 12-G Colt .45 ACP Model 1911 Commercial WW-I Era Auto Pistol** 5" barrel with very good bright bore showing a little light frosting, fixed sights, 97% original blue with one very small spot of pitting at left forward edge of slide, made in 1917 with all correct slide markings for that period, excellent checkered Walnut grips with large diamonds at fastening screws, flat mainspring housing, full blue lanyard loop magazine, excellent function and collector quality (C&R)\$2350
- 13-G Colt .45 ACP "Argentine Systema 1927" Auto Pistol** 5" barrel with mint bore, D.G.F.M.-(F.M.A.P.) marked on left of slide, 98% very nice arsenal rebuild blue, matching numbered frame, slide and barrel, fixed sights, minty full checkered Walnut grips, "Colt 45 Auto" marked magazine, serial number on frame is a bit light due to rebuild but perfectly readable, import marked on right front of slide, excellent function and sharp looking, with importer's box and manual (C&R)\$785
- 14-G Colt .45 ACP Argentine "Ballester-Molina/Hafdas" Auto Pistol** 5" barrel with mint bore, fixed sights, 98%+ arsenal rebuild blue with all markings crisp and clear, matching slide and frame, minty serrated wood grips, import marked on frame above serial number, excellent function, super looking arsenal rebuild with unmarked blued magazine (C&R)\$785
- 15-G Colt .22 LR Factory "Engraved New Frontier" Single Action Revolver** 4 1/4" barrel with mint bore, 99%+ factory original blue, front raised ramp factory sight, flat top receiver with adjustable factory rear sight, engraved barrel, cylinder, front strap, backstrap/triggerguard, 98% case colors remaining on factory engraved frame, 2 piece plastic original Colt grips, appears unfired, manufactured 1976, collector quality\$1295

- 16-G Colt .22 LR "Golden Spike Centennial" Frontier Scout Single Action Revolver** 6" barrel with mint bore, 99%+ original blue on frame, backstrap/triggerguard and barrel, 99%+ gold plated cylinder, loading gate, cylinder rod, ejector rod and ejector rod housing and frame screws, 2 piece "Colt wood" gold Colt medallions grips, fixed sights, comes with factory engraved wood top case, inside is lined with green velvet and comes with gold plated spike engraved "1859-Golden Spike-1969", collector quality, appears unfired, (C&R)\$595
- 17-G Colt .32 New Police (.32 S&W Long) "Police Positive" Revolver** 4" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original bright blue, mint Colt logo checkered black hard rubber grips, fixed sights, excellent function, collector quality made in 1917 and looks up and looks like new (C&R)\$495
- 18-G Colt .32 S&W Police Positive Double Action Revolver** 4" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, fixed factory sights, 6 shot fluted cylinder with very light drag line, crisp markings, hard rubber "C" type mint Colt grips, tight lockup, excellent function, manufactured 1919 (C&R)\$495
- 19-G Colt .38 Colt Model "U.S. Army 1901" Hand Ejector Revolver** 6" barrel with mint bore, 90% blue, high edge wear and areas turning to gray, fixed sights, all matching, smooth "RAC" marked service Walnut grips with handling wear, left side of frame is marked "RAC, Leb" just above grip panel, excellent function, butt of revolver has lanyard loop and is marked "U.S. Army Model 1901 No. 157898" (C&R)\$695
- 20-G Colt .38 Special "Officers Model" Target Revolver** 6" barrel with mint bore, 95%+ original blue with most loss on thinning cylinder, adjustable front and rear sights, excellent dark Walnut checkered grips with diamond at escutcheon and deep set high relief Colt logo medallions, excellent function, made in 1916 and falls in the "Army Special" serial range, a very nice 2nd issue officers model (C&R)\$545
- 21-G Colt 44/40 W.C.F. "Cased Theodore Roosevelt Commemorative" Single Action Army Revolver** 7 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 99%+ original bright blue, "factory B" hand engraved barrel and 6 shot fluted cylinder (no drag line on cylinder), 99% original bright blue backstrap with intertwined gold plated "T.R." on back and triggerguard, 99%+ original case hardened black powder frame with crisp deep colors, fixed sights, smooth mint Ivory grips, top of barrel marked "+ Colt PT. F.A. MFG Co. Hartford, CT U.S.A." comes with factory wood case, "lockable display case but no key provided" case is red velvet lined with gold plated engraved plaque depicting Theodore Roosevelt and In "Commemorative tribute to Theodore Roosevelt" engraved, manufactured 1985, collector quality, appears unfired, like new (C&R)\$2250
- 22-G Colt 44/40 W.C.F. "3rd Generation" Bozeman Trail Special Edition Single Action Army Cased Set of Two Revolvers** 7 1/2" barrels both with mint bores, 99% original blue, barrel, cylinder, triggerguard and backstrap, 99% case color on frame with deep rich colors, barrels are gold etched with "Bozeman Trail Special Edition" on left side and "John M. Bozeman 1835-1867" "Nelson Story 1838-1926" on right side, cylinders are 6 shot gold etched with portrait of both John Bozeman and Nelson Story, fixed sights, right side of frame marked "26 of 200" on one revolver and "27 of 200" on the other, mint Colt logo Single Action Army grips, collector quality, comes with hard wood case, blue velvet lined for 2 revolvers, like new, both revolvers and case for (C&R)\$3195
- 23-G Colt .45 Colt and Colt .22 LR Cased Pair of "Appomattox Commemorative" Single Action Army Revolvers** 5 1/2" barrels with mint bores, 99%+ original blue barrel and frame, 99%+ nickel cylinder, hammer, triggerguard, backstrap, and frame screws, 2 piece laminated Rosewood silver medallion grips, fixed sights, left side of frame engraved "1865 Appomattox Commemorative model -1965", right side "Colt Single Action Army 45", comes with wood case with blue velvet lined interior, top of case picture of Grant and Lee along with Colt log, manufactured 1965 Colt .22 LR Single Action Scout "Appomattox Commemorative" Revolver 4 3/4" barrel with mint bore, 99% original blue frame and barrel, 99%+ nickel cylinder, hammer, trigger, triggerguard and backstrap, engraved bottom of butt, trigger and triggerguard are one piece of nickel, fixed sights, 2 piece laminated Rosewood smooth grips with silver Colt medallions, manufactured 1965, comes with wood case, the pair with factory case for each for (C&R)\$1995
- 24-G Colt .45 Colt Single Action Army "St. Louis Bicentennial" Set of Revolvers** 5 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 99% original blue barrel, frame and cylinder, 99% original gold plated hammer, triggerguard, backstrap, ejector rod lever, cylinder rod and frame screws, fixed sights, 2 piece smooth Walnut gold Colt medallions grips, comes with factory Colt box, top of box has "St. Louis, Bicentennial 1964-1966" Colt logo in bottom lower right corner, inside is gold velvet lined, inside top lid has Colt logo, excellent function, manufactured 1966 Colt .22 LR Frontier Scout "St. Louis Bicentennial Single Action Army Revolver 4 3/4" barrel with mint bore, 99% original blue barrel, cylinder, 99% gold plated hammer, trigger, triggerguard backstrap, cylinder rod, ejector rod button and frame screws, 2 piece smooth Walnut grips with Colt gold medallions, comes with wood factory case, top of case has "St. Louis-Bicentennial-1964-1966" with Colt logo at bottom of right corner, inside lined with golden colored velvet, inside top of lid has Colt logo, the pair each with its own display case for (C&R)\$1995
- 25-G CZ .380 ACP Model CZ-24 Auto Pistol** 3 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 95%+ original high polish blue with 70% original straw color, fixed sights, minty CZ logo checkered wrap around plastic grips, matching numbers, excellent function, comes in a period "BNZ" ink stamped leather flap holster with spare magazine pocket (no extra magazine), 1937 proofed pistol, holster is probably for a P-35 Radom (C&R)\$595

CONTINUED ➡

46-G High Standard .22 LR "Supermatic Trophy" Auto Pistol 7 1/4" fluted barrel with mint bore, 98% factory blue, fixed front sight, rear frame mounted bridge adjustable target sight, push button takedown, mint checkered Walnut grips with thumbrest, adjustable trigger, one factory magazine, manufactured 1978 in East Hartford, Connecticut\$695

47-G High Standard .22 LR "Supermatic Trophy" Auto Pistol 7 1/4" fluted barrel with mint bore, 98% factory blue, light scratches on barrel, barrel is factory drilled and tapped with plugs for barrel weights, fixed front sight, rear frame mounted adjustable bridge type sight, push button takedown, case hardened adjustable trigger, case hardened magazine release, checkered Walnut grips, stippled front and backstrap, one magazine, manufactured in 1973 in Hamden, Connecticut\$695

48-G High Standard .22 LR "Supermatic Trophy" Auto Pistol 7 1/4" fluted barrel with mint bore, 96% original blue with some wear on left side of slide, fixed front and adjustable rear sight, excellent Walnut checkered thumbrest grips, factory stippling on front and back strap, gold plated trigger and safety button, trigger stop, trigger pull adjustment, push button takedown barrel with drilled factory holes for barrel weights (none present), missing one screw, excellent function, manufactured 1976\$535

49-G High Standard .22 LR "Victor" Target Auto Pistol 5 1/2" slab sided barrel with mint bore, aluminum vent rib, factory target sights and factory barrel weight attached, 99% original blue, nickel plated adjustable trigger, safety and magazine release, excellent military style checkered Walnut thumbrest grips, excellent function, made in 1978 as a 107 series pistol\$625

50-G Iver Johnson .22 LR Model 57 "Bulldog" 8 Shot Solid Frame Revolver 2 1/2" solid rib barrel with mint bore, 1/8" blade front and fully adjustable target style rear sights, 99% original blue and case color, minty "IJ" logo checkered black plastic grips, looks and functions near new, works both single and double action, loading gate equipped and comes in original box with "Johnson's Jector" spent shell removal tool\$185

51-G Iver Johnson .22 LR "Swingout Cylinder Prototype" Revolver 4 3/4" solid rib barrel with mint bore, 99% original blue, 8 shot un-fluted cylinder, blade front and fully adjustable rear sight, minty checkered brown plastic thumbrest grips, no "hammer the hammer" interrupter bar, firing pin in hammer, cylinder mechanism shows some hand fitted part but swingout mechanism was never finished to correct working condition as cylinder does not latch closed correctly, still functions both double and single action when held on its side to keep cylinder closed, a nice I.J. curiosity that almost was, only a few of these have been discovered (less than 10) and all are slightly different, serial number is E3" with no Iver Johnson address, model number or caliber markings\$145

52-G Iver Johnson .22 Blank Starter Double Action Revolver 3" un-bored dummy barrel, short 8 shot cylinder for blanks only, solid frame, no sights, 96% original blue, mint smooth Walnut grips, these need an FFL as they can be easily modified to shoot conventional cartridges, comes in original tattered flip top box\$85

53-G Iver Johnson .22 Blank Starter Double Action Revolver 3" un-bored dummy barrel, short 8 shot cylinder for blanks only, solid frame, no sights, 90% original blue with some light flaking, mint smooth Walnut grips, these need an FFL as they can be easily modified to shoot conventional cartridges, comes in original tattered flip top box\$75

54-G Iver Johnson .22 Rimfire Model 1900 7 Shot Revolver 2 1/4" octagon barrel with good bore with a patch of pitting, 98% slightly "milky" original nickel, 98% original blue and case color, excellent "owl" logo hard rubber grips, excellent function both single and double action (C&R)\$130

55-G Iver Johnson .22 Rimfire Model 1900 Solid Frame 7 Shot Revolver 2 1/2" octagon barrel with good strong but pitted bore, 95% original bright nickel, blue, and case color, fixed sights, mint "owl" logo checkered hard rubber grips, nickel shows one small patch of pitting on left side of barrel and some flaking at top strap, works fine both single and double action (C&R)\$105

56-G Iver Johnson .32 Blank Trainer Revolver 3 1/4" dummy barrel of solid steel, shortened cylinder for blanks only, loading gate, solid frame 5 shot, excellent smooth round butt synthetic grips, sold "FFL only" as these can easily be converted to fire conventional ammo, comes in original flip top box\$95

57-G Iver Johnson .32 S&W "Hammer The Hammer" Top Break Revolver 3" ribbed barrel with very good bright bore, 97% original nickel, blue and case color, minty "owl" logo hard rubber grips, excellent function, early style patent information on barrel (C&R)\$145

58-G Iver Johnson .38 S&W "Safety Hammer" Top-Break Revolver 4" ribbed barrel with excellent bright bore, 97% original slightly faded blue, fixed sights, 5 shot cylinder, smooth Walnut "high hold" grips, looks and functions near new (C&R)\$175

59-G Luger .30 Luger Model 1900 "American Eagle" Auto Pistol 4 3/4" barrel with fair worn bore, 99% restoration quality refinish blue, straw and fire blue, all matching numbers, marked "Germany" under frame serial number, excellent un-numbered checkered wood grips, un-numbered wood bottom bright body magazine, excellent function (C&R)\$1595

60-G Luger .30 Luger Model 1906 Portuguese Army "Manuel 2nd" Auto Pistol 4 3/4" barrel with very good strong but peppery pitted bore, 99% original bright blue, 95% slightly faded straw color, "DWM" in scroll on toggle, crown over large "M" intertwined with numeral "2" over chamber area, all matching numbers except unnumbered firing pin and unnumbered excellent checkered Walnut grips, unmarked wood bottom magazine, grip safety, correct "no stock lug" backstrap, triangle in a circle small Portuguese proofs scattered about, 3 digit commercial serial number, comes in the correct Portuguese black leather flap holster with brass cleaning rod with a "grease pot" on end of handle and pin punch, pouch for takedown tool but no tool, collector quality (C&R)\$2295

61-G Polish 7.62x25mm Tokarev TT-33 Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue little loss at trigger and some areas of high edge wear, factory fixed sights, top of slide dated 1952, factory "circle II" CAI import marks on left side of slide, barrel and frame with matching serial numbers, hammer and hammer group body marked "8.51", safety lever added for import, comes with shipping style box, paperwork, lock and cleaning rod, one magazine, collector quality (C&R)\$325

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